THE Valley INDEPENDENT
An Edition of the TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Young paces Pitt

Sam Young scored 22 points to lead Pitt past Providence. **1B**

Valley Business

Ductmate Industries has received a Green Building Alliance grant to improve technology. **12A**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2008 RELEVANT, RELIABLE WWW.VALLEYINDEPENDENT.COM 50¢

Open records law a lock

The state Senate passed the bill and Gov. Ed Rendell has agreed to sign the document.

By BRAD BUMSTED
For The Valley Independent
bbumsted@tribweb.com

HARRISBURG – Pennsylvania might shed its reputation as having one of the worst open records laws in the nation when Gov. Ed Rendell signs revised legislation that lawmakers called historic.

The Senate on Tuesday approved a bill that aims to make more state and local government records available to the public on a more timely basis.

"I think we'll be in the top 10" of states with strong open records laws, said Rep. Tim Mahoney, D-Uniontown, who led the effort in the House. Majority Leader Dominic Pileggi, a Delaware County Republican, sponsored the Senate bill.

Rendell spokesman Chuck Ardo said the governor "intends to sign it within the next couple days."

Government watchdogs cautioned the law still has weak spots, including a lack of criminal penalties for violators.

State Sen. J. Barry Stout, D-Bentleyville, praised the Senate passage of the "Right-to-Know" bill.

"The measure helps make government more transparent, accountable and open," Stout said. "This bill represents a solid bipartisan effort, and provides our state government with much-needed reform."

Stout said the bill will presume that most government records are public records; disclose available birth dates on court and public documents to help verify identity; make 9-1-1 recordings available when disclosure would serve the public interest; and would make correspondence between legislators' and lobbyists' public documents.

"I am extremely pleased that we are able to present this bill to Gov. Rendell before the Legislature recesses for the 2008-09 budget hearings," Stout said. "It is the public's right to know what goes on in our government, and this legislation is another step in the right direction."

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INSIDE TODAY

Young Voices

Read the work of Cal U students in Young Voices, which appears monthly in *The Valley Independent.*

Happiness found

The lives of Michael J. Durant and the former Lisa Zandanell were filled with tragic and traumatic events. **3A**

Frenzy unfounded

A widely circulated e-mail warning motorists of a state police "30-day speeding-ticket frenzy" is a hoax. **3A**

Release deal cut

A deal has been reached with kidnappers for the release of two CBS News journalists. **5A**

SPORTS

Grass works

Fast Willie Parker prefers fake grass, but is better when he goes natural. **1B**

Revenge sought

Belle Vernon Area is out to avenge a Jan. 2 loss to Keystone Oaks. **1B**

DEATHS

- Daniel James Gust, 84, Monongahela
- Evelyn Rose Johnson, 84, Charleroi.
- Grace Mary Niederer Ward, 93, Scarborough, Maine

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WEATHER

Tonight Mostly cloudy 25°
Tomorrow Mostly sunny 38°

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Two sections, 18 Pages

TOMORROW

Read Valley Entertainment, which appears each Thursday in *The Valley Independent.*

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Paving project hinges on surveys

North Belle Vernon is seeking a Community Development Block grant.

By JEFF PIKULSKY
Staff Writer
jpikulsky@tribweb.com

NORTH BELLE VERNON – Council President Dennis Simboli said Tuesday that residents living in one section of the borough must submit income surveys if they want their roads resurfaced.

Lyons

Council plans to apply for a competitive $350,000 federal Community Development Block grant that can be used to repave 10 streets on the south side of Broad Avenue.

Surveys soon will be mailed to people living on those streets.

At a meeting Tuesday, Simboli said residents have been reluctant to submit such forms in the past because personal information is required.

However, income eligibility must be established before the grant can be awarded.

"They send them back to the borough. They are sealed. They go automatically back to Greensburg. We do not open them. It's all confidential," Simboli said.

Mayor Ed Lyons, who did not attend the meeting, has been aiding in the grant process.

"Unless we get total cooperation and obtain all the information we need to proceed to go after the competitive grant, there is no possibility, based on current budget projections, that the streets will be done for many years to come," the mayor wrote in a statement.

The mayor stated that the streets will be repaved using individual contracts. The streets were not among roads resurfaced following installation of new stormwater and wastewater systems.

Councilwoman Heather Prinkey said if residents do not submit the surveys, their streets will be excluded when the grant money arrives.

"If you don't respond, then don't cry about your street," Simboli added.

If the borough receives the grant, paving will begin next year.

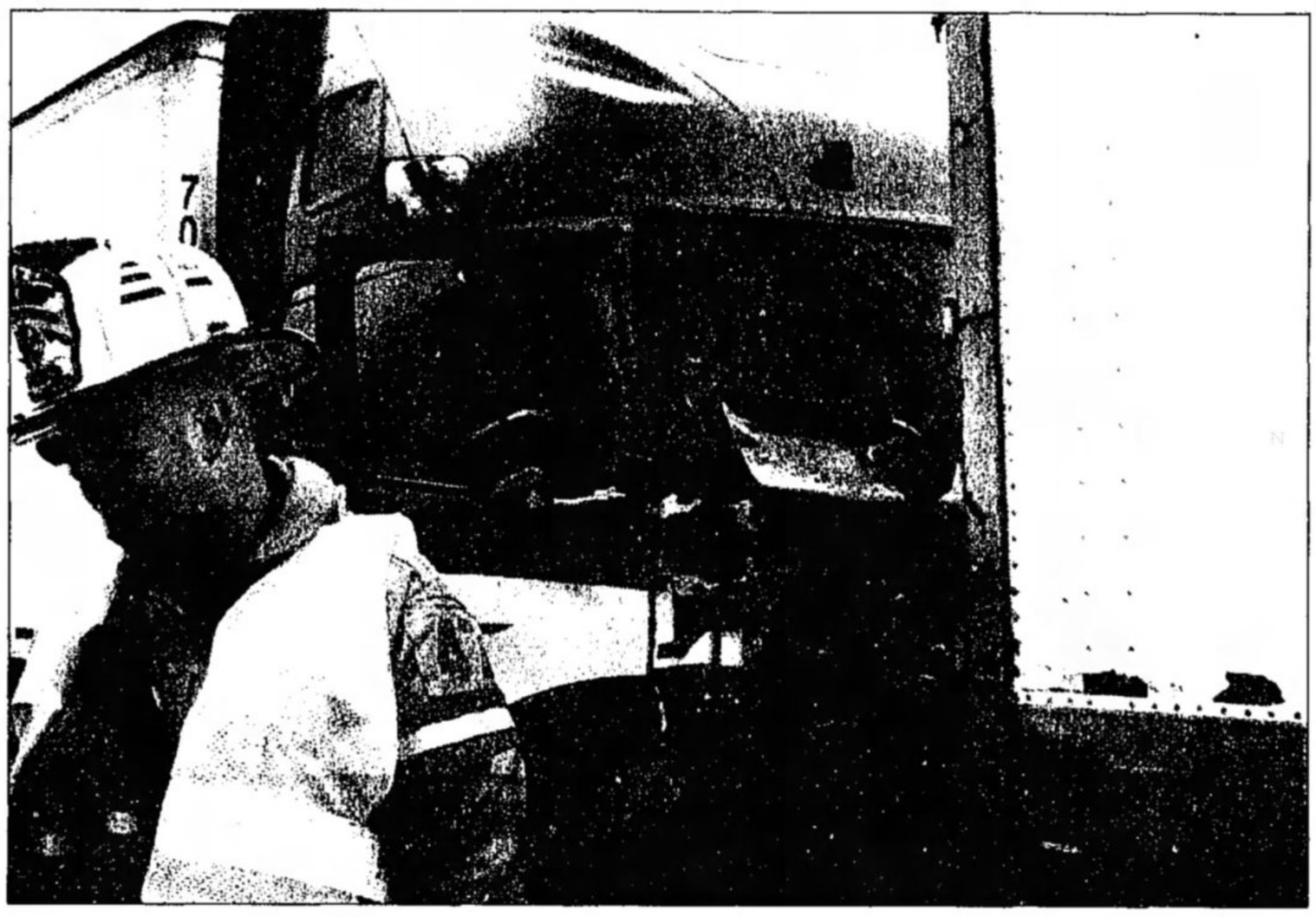
In an unrelated matter, council hired K-2 Engineering, of Uniontown, to help with zoning work.

Former zoning officer Fred Fundy resigned last year from the job that carried a $200 monthly salary.

Council did not replace Fundy and K-2 now will handle zoning matters and building inspections through subcontractors.

Simboli said the borough will not pay for the services because permit and inspection fees will be paid directly to K-2.

(See PAVING, Page 2A)



Jim Ference/The Valley Independent

Fallowfield Township fire Chief Anthony Fleming talks to reporters following a multi-vehicle crash on Interstate 70 Tuesday afternoon. Five tractor-trailers were involved in a chain-reaction accident.

Mon Valley faces shifting weather over next 5 days

Snow and ice resulted in numerous traffic accidents in region.

By CHRIS BUCKLEY
Staff Writer
cbuckley@tribweb.com

The rain overnight converted to light snow showers this morning, causing some minor traffic problems even as road crews and police cleaned up from Tuesday's snowstorm.

Five tractor-trailers and a van were involved in a pile up shortly after noon Tuesday that caused the westbound lanes to be closed for five hours on Interstate 70 at mile marker 33.5 in Fallowfield Township.

State police did not provide the identities of the drivers.

However, according to state police, one driver lost control of his rig, striking the embankment along the north berm of I-70 westbound. That vehicle then crossed both westbound lanes, striking the center barrier and blocking both lanes.

A few minutes later, a second tractor-trailer driver slowed to avoid the first vehicle and was side-swiped by a third rig, which then was struck from behind by a fourth vehicle. A fifth rig hit the rear of the fourth tractor-trailer.

The debris from the accidents struck a van, damaging the left front tire and wheel.

No injuries were reported.

Hazardous materials crews cleaned up fuel and oil that leaked from two of the tractor-trailers.

The Valley will have to deal with both snow and rain as the temperatures dance above and below the freezing point for most of the next five days.

The lone exception appears to be Thursday when the sun will replace cloudy skies.

The rain that arrived Tuesday afternoon and lingered overnight changed to snow this morning as the temperatures fell again during the day.

Less than one inch of snow was expected locally although a little more snow was possible north and east of the Valley.

Thursday was expected to be the best weather day in the foreseeable future, with mostly sunny skies and a high near 40.

Snow-rain events will return Friday, with a slight chance of snow showers before 11 a.m., then a chance of rain showers. The precipitation might turn back to snow showers Friday night.

The changeover from rain to snow this morning resulted in slick spots on area roadways. Monongahela police reported two weather-related accidents.

Ronald Pellegrini, of 136 Railroad St., Monongahela, lost control of the vehicle because of snow and ice 12:30 a.m. Tuesday

For another photo, see Page 2A

(See WEATHER, Page 2A)

Bonus probe expands to Senate GOP

The controversy has already cost the jobs of seven top Democratic staff members.

By BRAD BUMSTED
For The Valley Independent
bbumsted@tribweb.com

HARRISBURG – The state Attorney General's Office has subpoenaed Senate Republicans for "a variety of records" as part of a grand jury investigation into whether staffers received bonuses for campaign work in 2005-06.

Stephen MacNett, general counsel for the Senate Republicans, said Tuesday the request includes personnel records.

MacNett could not be reached for comment but said in a statement the subpoena was the "formalization of an information-gathering and -sharing process that has been going on for some time."

Republican senators were told about the subpoenas in a brief caucus meeting, said Sen. John Eichelberger, an Altoona Republican. Senators are to receive a document today explaining "records preservation," he said.

"I would hope no one had done anything to destroy pertinent records before this," said Eichelberger, who encouraged the attorney general to investigate a year ago.

Kevin Harley, a spokesman for Attorney General Tom Corbett, would not confirm or deny the subpoenas' existence.

"I can't comment on any grand jury proceedings," he said.

Eichelberger expressed frustration that Corbett's office did not appear to be investigating Republicans.

"I am glad they're finally taking

(See BONUS, Page 2A)

VALLEY PEOPLE

Yesteryear

Pictured in 1969 at a Charleroi Kiwanis meeting at the Elks Club are, from left, Tom Brown, Frank Buscanics, Mayor Ronald Tuman, Bill Cominsky and Phil Morrow, who submitted the photo.

If you have a good oldtime photograph, send it to us at Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa., 15062.

Paving (FROM PAGE ONE)

Police Chief James Bedsworth and Lt. Eugene Lipari help handle sign and occupancy permits and property maintenance violations.

The officers will receive 50-cent per hour raises to handle the extra work.

Dennis Hill received a 50-cent per hour raise related to his promotion to superintendent of streets.

Simboli said Hill will handle street department purchases and authorize road repairs.

Council is awaiting word on a new site for the District 2 polling place.

St. Sebastian School – which previously provided space – has informed council it will no longer provide access because of security issues.

Council chambers will continue to serve as the District 1 polling site.

Council might close Trail Alley because it has been badly damaged by garbage trucks.

The alley, which runs behind several homes, is badly in need of repair, Simboli said.

Simboli said he would visit the site and determine whether it will be closed until the weather improves and the alley can be repaired.

Council agreed to a one-year contract with UPMC Insurance.

The company will provide health insurance for the borough's six full-time employees at a savings of $4,800 this year, Simboli said.

Bonus (FROM PAGE ONE)

a look at the Senate," he said.

The investigation to date has focused mostly on the House Democrats, whose leaders doled out about two-thirds of the $3.6 million in legislative bonuses.

House Majority Leader Bill DeWeese, D-Greene County, fired seven top staffers in November.

He claimed e-mails turned over to the attorney general linked bonuses to political work.

Corbett also has subpoenaed records from House Republicans.

The bonuses, which weren't part of payroll records routinely provided to the public, were discovered in January 2007.

House Democrats attracted Corbett's attention because $1.85 million in bonuses were paid after Democrats won control of the House in the November 2006 election.

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Weather

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Hesbollah leader reportedly killed by Israelis

By The Associated Press

BEIRUT, Lebanon – The fugitive militant Imad Mughniyeh, who was indicted in the U.S. for the 1985 hijacking of a TWA airliner in which a Navy diver died, has been killed by Israeli agents, Hezbollah announced today.

Mughniyeh, among America's most wanted, had been in hiding for years.

"With all pride we declare a great jihadist leader of the Islamic resistance in Lebanon joining the martyrs ... The brother commander hajj Imad Mughinyeh became a martyr at the hands of the Zionist Israelis," said a statement carried on Hezbollah's television.

The statement from the militant group did not say how Mughniyeh was killed, but the announcement came a few hours after a late night explosion in Damascus, capital of neighboring Syria, destroyed a vehicle.

Weather (FROM PAGE ONE)

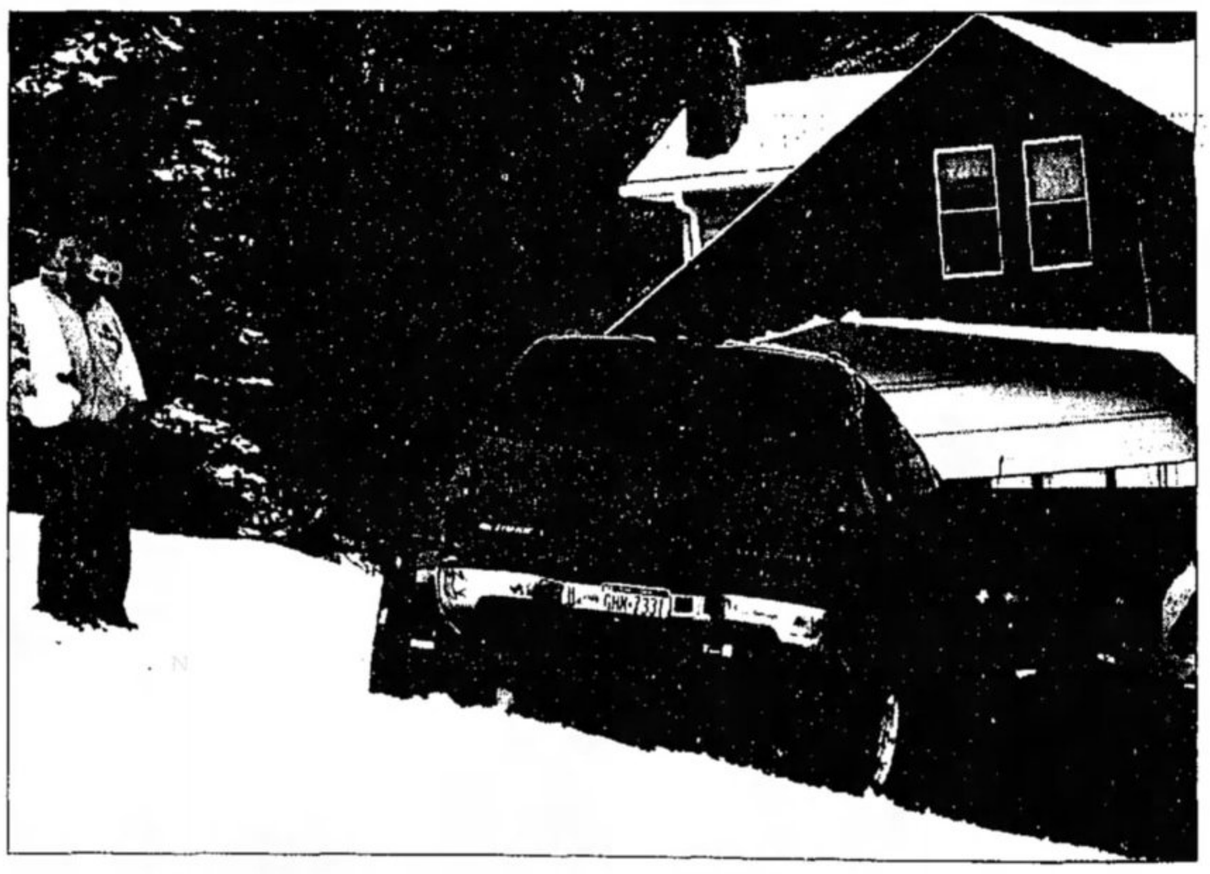
at the intersection of Fourth Street and Fourth Avenue.

He hit a utility pole and snapped it in half. The crash caused an electrical power outage for approximately 12 hours in the surrounding area, police reported.

City police also reported that Diane Terrant, 62, of 1007 W. Main St., hit the curb in the 800 block of E. Main Street 3:15 p.m. Tuesday, damaging the vehicle which had to be towed.

An accident on Route 51 near the Rostraver Airport and a crash that occurred when a car fishtailed on Tyrol Boulevard in Rostraver Township this morning apparently were weather related. Rostraver Township police said they were tied up this morning and could not provide details of the accidents.

In addition, a SUV slammed into a garage in Carroll Township. Police could not be reached for details this morning.



Jim Ference/The Valley Independent

A sport utility vehicle slammed into this garage this morning on Route 48 in Carroll Township. Police could not be reached for details this morning.

Records (FROM PAGE ONE)

State Sen. Richard A. Kasunic said the bill is "akin to letting the sunshine in."

"This landmark legislation stands as the first significant re-write of the state's "Right-to Know Law" in 50 years," Kasunic said. "While I view this legislation as just a first step, it will certainly make government at all levels more open and accessible.

"The greater the openness, the greater the Democracy."

Kasunic said the measure would complement institutional reforms Senators approved last year that restricted session hours, mandated waiting periods before amendments can be considered and made more legislative information available on the Internet.

"This bill is a solid stride toward giving citizens more tools to fully participate in their government at the local, county and state level," Kasunic said.

State Rep. David Levdansky said some final adjustments were made to ensure 911 records will be protected and realtors still have access to public information such as assessment records used to create multi-lists.

"It's been a long, arduous fight to get this done, but at least we went from being the state with one of the worst public records laws to the state with one of the best," Levdansky said.

State Rep. R. Ted Harhai, D-Monessen, said he is waiting to view the full scope of the bill, but added, "I'm in favor of open records. There should be nothing to hide."

State Rep. Peter J. Daley, D-California, said the open records law will aid the public and public officials alike.

"I think it's high time," Daley said. "I think it's important for the public to have access to those records. Now maybe we can really find out what's going on in Harrisburg – not only for public but for us. There are some things going on in leadership that we could not find out."

"We're viewing the glass as a little more than half full," said Barry Kauffman, executive director of Common Cause of Pennsylvania. "We're still concerned about weak penalties."

"The $1,500 (civil) fines, for most of the governmental agencies, are budget dust," said Tim Potts, co-founder of Democracy Rising PA, who called the law an improvement, but far from one of the "best-practice" laws in America.

The Office of Open Records established by the law will oversee requests for records from local governments and the state executive branch. Erik Arneson, an aide to Pileggi, said the Legislature and judiciary were not placed under the Office of Open Records because of "separation of powers" issues.

Kauffman said he's concerned the Legislature's own records officers will decide appeals of information requests.

The Office of Open Records will cost about $1.1 million to establish and be headed by a director appointed by the governor. The director will serve a six-year term, which is intended to give that person some independence.

Mahoney said he had wanted the appeals to be handled by the state Ethics Commission. Instead, the office will be housed in the state Department of Community and Economic Development, an agency the governor controls.

The Office of Open Records will issue recommendations and cannot force an agency to produce a record, according to Mahoney.

It will pressure government agencies to produce records requested by citizens, Kauffman said, and give governments a tool if they eventually go to court.

The law "will certainly place us among the top half of states -- maybe higher," Kauffman said.

Mahoney praised the bill as a major step forward for the state.

"I just believe it brings us out of the Dark Ages," he said. "We are finally not a secret government. We're not hiding anything. All the accounts are open."

Sen. Jim Ferlo, a Highland Park Democrat who sponsored a separate bill that did not win approval, called yesterday's vote "a huge victory for openness and accountability in state government."

Staff Writer Chris Buckley contributed to this report.

Valley briefs

Westmoreland contracts online

Thousands of government contract documents will be available for viewing at home for the first time.

Westmoreland County Controller Carmen Pedicone announced Tuesday that a new feature on the county's Web site will enable anyone with computer access to view every contract signed by county commissioners dating to 2004.

And every new contract awarded by county leaders will be available for viewing on the Web.

The contracts, which can be found on the controller's page of the county Web site, were expected to go online today.

"When I first ran for office, I said the goal was to bring openness and transparency to the public," Pedicone said. "Everybody talks about this, and this is a good way to accomplish that."

Casino sued over parking garage

The Pittsburgh Riverlife Task Force filed an appeal Tuesday with the state Supreme Court to stop owners of the Majestic Star Casino from building a 3,800-space parking garage that the group believes would be an eyesore along the Ohio River.

Pittsburgh Planning Commission members violated the city's zoning code and failed to "demand complete information" from Majestic Star officials "beyond PowerPoint presentations" showing the casino's towering parking garage, according to the 21-page lawsuit filed by Riverlife Task Force attorney Clifford B. Levine.

Planning Commission Chairwoman Wrenna Watson defended the board's approval of the casino's shell design.

"I feel confident that the decision that we made was the appropriate decision to be made," she said.

'Defect in thinking' led to murder?

A Washington County man representing himself on a capital murder charge told jurors that he does not have a "disease of the mind," but that depression and stress led to a "defect of thinking" at the time he robbed and killed an elderly woman.

Patrick Jason Stollar also told jurors that, if they knew him, they would find him a "pleasant and down-to-earth individual."

Stollar did landscaping for the 78-year-old victim, Jean Heck, and is not disputing that he killed her in June 2003.

In a sometimes rambling opening statement Tuesday, Stollar told jurors he is "not the monster the prosecution will portray."

Stollar, 29, of Washington, Pa., could face the death penalty if convicted of first-degree murder.

Wayne E. Ray/For The Valley Independent

A Ringgold School District snow plow driver escaped unharmed Tuesday afternoon after this truck caught fire. Carroll Township police Chief Paul Brand said George Ulakovich, 56, was clearing snow about 1 p.m. at Carroll Middle School when the transmission line on the truck ruptured, causing fluid to squirt onto the engine and ignite. Brand said witnesses could not put out the blaze with a fire extinguisher. Carroll Township firefighters arrived on the scene and handled the fire, Brand said. The truck was gutted by the flames.

Driscoll testifies in threat case

A disabled man from Hempfield Township is charged with terrorizing the Westmoreland County family court judge.

By CHRIS FOREMAN
For The Valley Independent
cforeman@tribweb.com

A Westmoreland County family court judge testified Tuesday he felt some anxiety after a wheelchair-bound man allegedly told court personnel he wanted to kill him, but he let the sheriff's deputy who heard the threats alert county detectives.

Judge John Driscoll said he had some concerns after learning about Samuel H. Shoemaker's comments stemming from a tense divorce hearing in April 2006.

But he chose not to contact state police about a safety program they have for judges.

The trial began yesterday for the 49-year-old Hempfield man, a former truck driver who is charged with retaliation against a judicial official and making terroristic threats.

Prosecutors contend Shoemaker should be convicted because he threatened to commit a crime of violence.

But his defense attorneys insist the legless man who was burned in a 1994 trucking accident made outbursts out of anger and was physically incapable of harming the judge.

Sheriff's Deputy Tommy Wynkoop said Shoemaker repeatedly said in a low voice in the courtroom that he was going to kill Driscoll and wanted to punch him in the face because he was planning not to approve his request for a paternity test.

Later, when the deputy was making an incident report, Shoemaker said he would "break his neck with these two hands" if he ever saw Driscoll on the street, Wynkoop testified.

Driscoll said he couldn't recall having heard any of the alleged threats.

"Just for a matter of several days, I was extra cautious, but then I went back to my regular routine," the judge testified.

After the jury was sent home yesterday, trial Judge Rita D. Hathaway denied defense attorney Richard Galloway's motions to dismiss the charges for a lack of evidence showing harm or an attempt of harm.

Galloway said Shoemaker, who also has limited use of his arms, couldn't have harmed Driscoll physically "on his best day."

"Everything about this case cries out that there wasn't any intent to terrorize," Galloway said.

Assistant District Attorney Pete Flanigan countered that Shoemaker showed an intent to terrorize Driscoll by relaying the threat through the sheriff's deputy who was protecting him.

Shoemaker was expected to take the witness stand to testify in his own defense when the trial was scheduled to resume this morning.

Monessen native, hubby experience traumatic events

He was a soccer coach and she was a soccer mom when they met.

But the lives of Michael J. Durant and the former Lisa Zandanell of Monessen were filled with many years of traumatic events.

Durant, piloting a U.S. Army Special Operations Blackhawk (helicopter), was shot down and captured on Oct. 3, 1991, in Somalia. The battle is depicted in Mark Bowden's best-selling book "Blackhawk Down," which was also the subject of a movie.

DURANT

"Durant's experience is one of the most harrowing in the history of the American military, and one of the most compelling ever told," Bowden wrote in his introduction to the book, "In the Company of Heroes," in which Durant's experiences are told.

The first words Durant heard when the helicopter he was piloting was shot down by a rocket-propelled grenade were "Ranger, Ranger, you die Somalia" coming from enraged Somali voices.

In his book, Durant praises the "heroes" of the battle, particularly the two brave Delta Force operators who rescued him after the crash and then died protecting him.

Durant became one of the most famous POWs of the time, held captive for 11 days by Somali warlord Mohammed Aidid – the man responsible for prolonging starvation in his country by hijacking United Nations food shipments.

The book details his days in captivity as well as experiences of his earlier service with a Medevac unit near Seoul. It also describes combat action he saw in the Persian Gulf, Panama, Iraq and Somalia after he joined the secretive and elite Night Stalkers.

Emma Jene **LELIK**

Durant's awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Flying Cross with Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star with Valor Device, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal and POW/MIA ribbon.

Lisa, daughter of Edward (Sonny) and Laverne Zandanell, of Monessen, graduated from Monessen High in 1982 and went through the ROTC program at California University of Pennsylvania, where she was commissioned during graduation exercises in 1986.

Lisa did her pilot training at Fort Rucker, Ala. and was assigned to Fort Carson, Colo., and Fort Campbell, Ky.

Lisa married one of the Night Stalkers, Pierre desRoches. They decided one full time helicopter pilot in the family was enough so, after 10 years, she devoted her time to caring for their sons, Joey and Christopher.

Her parents had also met when both were serving in the Air Force.

Lisa was nine months pregnant with their daughter, Dena, when Pierre's Chinook crashed one stormy night in Kentucky in the spring of 1996.

Suddenly, she was a widow, a member of the Gold Star Wives Club and a single mother with three children.

Michael and Pierre had been in contact on a previous training issue at Fort Campbell, but Michael did not know Lisa.

When Pierre's personal effects were delivered to Lisa after the funeral, she saw a Post-it asking him to "Call Michael Durant."

(See DURANTS, Page 11A)

Police: 'Ticket frenzy' warning simply a hoax

By PAUL PEIRCE
For The Valley Independent
ppeirce@tribweb.com

A widely circulated e-mail making the rounds warning motorists of a state police "30-day speeding-ticket frenzy" is a hoax.

"That's a hoax, urban legend. Call it what you want, but none of it is true," said state police spokeswoman Cpl. Linette Quinn in Harrisburg.

According to the e-mail, state police estimate $9 million will be generated through the monthlong, speeding-ticket blitz that supposedly began Friday.

The e-mail claims $1 million generated through the tickets already is designated to pay for troopers' overtime.

"That's a complete fabrication. Money generated (through speeding tickets) goes into the state's general fund and does not directly benefit state police," Quinn said.

Similar e-mails - even containing the identical $9 million revenue estimate - circulated recently in Hawaii, Kentucky, Michigan and Oklahoma, where authorities debunked them.

The e-mails specify the highways where troopers reportedly would be stepping up patrols.

"These letters make the rounds every year or so," Quinn said.

"We recommend that people just delete them, and don't forward them to anyone."

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RECORDS

DEATH NOTICES

GUST — Daniel J. Gust, 84, of Monongahela, on Monday, Feb. 11. Frye Funeral Home Inc., Monongahela.*

WARD — Grace M. (Niederer) Ward, 93, of Scarborough, Maine, on Sunday, Feb. 10. Conroy-Tully Crawford Funeral Home, Portland.*

PREVIOUS DEATHS:
DRAKE, Francis N.*
GILES, Eunice*
HARDY, Beth J.*
JOHNSTON, Eloise A.*
JUPIN, Mary*
*** See death notice**

Francis N. Drake
Rostraver Township

Francis N. "Nick" Drake, 75, of Belle Vernon (Rostraver Township), died Monday, February 11, 2008, at his home. Born in Phillipsburg (California, Pa., East Pike Run Township) on April 21, 1932, he was the son of the late Stanley and Elizabeth Slosky Drake. Nick was a retired maintenance foreman for Elliot Company in Donora. He was a member of Our Lady of the Valley Parish, St. Dominic site, the American Legion Ernest E. Jobes Post No. 212, the American Rusin Club, and the Elks Club, all in Donora, and the Mon Valley Slovak Cultural Society. Nick served in the U. S. Navy during the Korean Conflict. He is survived by his wife of 51 years, R. Geraldine Morgan Drake; three sons, Mark F. Drake and wife, Patti, of Monessen, Randall E. Drake and wife, Kelly, of Donora, and Jason N. Drake, of Rostraver Township; two daughters, Pamela M. Drake, of North Charleroi, and Heidi S. Sodora and husband, Michael, of Port Vue; eight loving grandchildren, Joshua Crow, Bradley Sodora, Shane A. Drake, Alisyn Drake, James Sberna, Emily Drake, Randall Drake and Seth Cadwallader and Brianne; and one brother, John Drake, of East Palestine, Ohio. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his grandson, Jason M. Drake, in 2002. Friends will be received Wednesday, February 13, from 7 to 9 p.m. and Thursday, February 14, from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. in the JAMES C. STUMP FUNERAL HOME INC., 580 Circle Drive, Belle Vernon/Rostraver Township (724-929-7934), www.jamesstumpfuneralhome.com, where prayers will be recited on Friday, February 15, at 9:45 a.m., followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:30 am in Our Lady of the Valley Parish, St. Dominic site, Donora, with the Rev. Michael Yaksick as celebrant. Interment, with full Military Honors, will follow in Sacred Heart Cemetery, Carroll Township. The family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Donora Public Library, the Rostraver Public Library or to Our Lady of the Valley Parish, St. Dominic site, Donora. The Donora Elks Club will conduct a service on Thursday at 7 p.m. in the funeral home.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Eunice Giles
Charleroi

Eunice Kendrick Giles, 80, of Mapleview (Charleroi), died Saturday, February 9, 2008, in the emergency room at Mon Valley Hospital. She was born November 19, 1927, in Charleroi, the daughter of the late John Joseph and Mary Coleman Kendrick. Eunice was a 1945 graduate of Charleroi High School and received her bachelor of science degree in dietetics from Carlow University and completed her internship at (UPMC) Montefiore Hospital in Pittsburgh. She was legend in dietetics, an outstanding career which consisted of 40 years with the Veterans Administration as Chief of Dietetic Service in Syracuse, N.Y., Philadelphia, Coatesville, Dayton, Ohio, and Pittsburgh. Mrs. Giles was on the Speakers Bureau for Ross Laboratories nationwide as a lecturer, publications, radio and TV media. She represented the USA at the International Congress of Dietetics in Sydney, Australia, in 1977, where she presented her publication in Audiology. Eunice was a renowned teacher, coordinating the undergraduate dietetic programs at Syracuse University. She was a member of Mary, Mother of the Church Parish in Charleroi, the Catholic Women's College Club, where she was an officer and former president, an active member of her class reunion committee, the American Dietetic Association and the Pittsburgh Dietetic Association, where she was a recipient of many awards, including outstanding dietician for the Philadelphia Dietetic Association and the Woman of Spirit for Carlow University. Surviving are several cousins. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Floyd Lee Giles, in 2007, who was her sweetheart since grade school. There will be no public visitation at Eunice's request. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Thursday, February 14, at 10:30 a.m. in Mary, Mother of the Church with her pastor, the Rev. David F. Dzermejko, officiating. Interment will follow in Belle Vernon Cemetery. EVERYONE IS ASKED TO GO DIRECTLY TO THE CHURCH. Arrangements are being handled by the CARL J. SPALLINO FUNERAL HOME, Charleroi.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Daniel J. Gust
Monongahela

Daniel James Gust, 84, of Monongahela, died Monday, February 11, 2008, in UPMC Presbyterian Hospital, Pittsburgh. He was born March 19, 1923, in Bunola, a son of the late Daniel Lewis and Anna Hank Gust. He was a very active member of the First Baptist Church in Monongahela, where he was a deacon, trustee, usher, bus driver and active with their softball team. Mr. Gust was employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad at Shire Oaks for 15 years and two years at Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel, Allenport plant. He retired from Combustion Engineering in East Monongahela after 35 years of employment. Mr. Gust was a sergeant in the U.S. Army during World War II and served active duty in Saipan for 16 months. He was a member of the Carroll Legion, James C. Ford Post 949 in Dunkirk, and he was active with the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 156 in Monongahela. Dan enjoyed family events, hunting, fishing, watching baseball and football and playing cards. He is survived by his wife, Rose Baxter Gust, with whom he celebrated 61 years of marriage on August 9, 2007; two sons and three daughters, James Gust and wife Sandi, of Peters Township, Janet Gossett, of Charleroi, Jerry Gust and wife Lynn, of Chambersburg, Joyce Cassarino, of Monongahela, and Judy Druciak and husband Joseph, of Belle Vernon; 11 grandchildren, and 11 great-grandchildren. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two grandchildren, Chris Cassarino and Amanda Gust; two sisters, Margaret Massari and Marie Westerbeck; and three brothers, Donald, William and Henry Gust. Friends will be received Thursday, February 14, from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. in the FRYE FUNERAL HOME INC., 427 West Main St., Monongahela (724-258-6136), where services will be held Friday, February 15, at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Mark Schollaert officiating. Interment will follow in Mt. Zion Cemetery, Monongahela. Memorial contributions may be made to: First Baptist Church, 601 West Main St., Monongahela, Pa. 15063.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Beth J. Hardy
Connellsville

Funeral services for Beth J. Hardy, 65, of Connellsville, who passed away Sunday, February 10, 2008, in Excela Health Westmoreland Hospital, Greensburg, will be held Wednesday, February 13, in Albright United Methodist Church, South Connellsville. Visitation will be held in the church from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., followed by a service in the church at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Dr. Byron Tate Fulton officiating. Interment will follow in Green Ridge Memorial Park, Pennsville. Arrangements are being handled by the BROOKS FUNERAL HOME INC., 111 East Green St., Connellsville. To sign the guest registry, please visit www.brooksfuneralhomes.com

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Eloise A. Johnston
Pricedale

Eloise Ann Brown Johnston, 65, of Belle Vernon, unexpectedly passed away to be with the Lord on Monday, February 11, 2008. Born July 23, 1942, in Charleroi, she was the daughter of the late Steven and Elizabeth Nagy Brown. A resident of Pricedale (Rostraver Township) all her life, she owned and operated Eloise's Beauty Salon for 45 years until her recent retirement last fall. Mrs. Johnston was a member of Pricedale Union Church. Eloise was a very loving and generous mother, grandmother and friend who enjoyed spending time with her family and friends. She will be deeply and sadly missed by all who knew and loved her. Left to cherish her memory is her daughter, Pam Hollick and husband, Ralph, of Belle Vernon; son, James Johnston and wife, Renee, of Darragh; grandson, Anthony Charles Johnston; brother, Joseph Brown and wife, Dolly, of Belle Vernon; dear friend, Dennis Ferencz, of Belle Vernon; sister-in-law, Lora Lee Triggiani, of Belle Vernon; several cousins, nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, Eloise was preceded in death by her husband, Charles Johnston, in 1997. Visitation will be held Wednesday, February 13, from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the LEONARD J. PARZYNSKI FUNERAL HOME, family owned and operated, 626 Broad Ave., Belle Vernon (724-929-6183). Services will be held Thursday, February 14, in the funeral home at 10 a.m. with the Rev. James J. Mimidis of Pricedale Union Church officiating. Interment will take place in Belle Vernon Cemetery. Condolences accepted for the family at the funeral home Web site, www.parzynskifuneralhome.com

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Grace M. (Niederer) Ward
Scarborough, Maine

Grace Mary Niederer Ward, 93, of Scarborough, Maine, died peacefully Sunday, Feb. 10, 2008, at Gosnell Memorial Hospice House in Scarborough. She was born Oct. 24, 1914, in Warren, the daughter of the late Augustus Ignatius and Georgia Singleton Niederer. She graduated in 1932 from Warren High School and from St. Francis Medical Center, School of Nursing in Pittsburgh. She received a bachelor of science degree in nursing education from St. Louis University, a master's degree from the University of Pittsburgh followed by several years of post-master's study in the field of mental health/psychiatric nursing at the University of Pittsburgh. An educator and administrator in psychiatric nursing, she was director of psychiatric nursing at the St. Francis Medical Center, School of Nursing and director of nursing education and its in-service program at the Warren State Hospital, Warren. Prior to her retirement in 1978, she was an active member of numerous civic and professional organizations. She retired to Cape Elizabeth, Maine in 1978, where she lived until moving to Thornton Oaks in Brunswick, Maine in 1996. She was a resident of Sentry Hill at York Harbor, Maine from 2006 until her death. She was a member of St. Bartholomew Church in Cape Elizabeth and later St. John the Baptist Church in Brunswick. Her husband, the late Matthew P. Ward M.D. died in 1967. She was also predeceased by two brothers, George and Robert Niederer. She is survived by five children, Thomas M. Ward and his wife, Carol, of Cape Elizabeth, Matthew P. Ward and his wife, Emily, of Scarborough, Maine, Joseph T. Ward and his wife, Candy Lee, of Upper Saddle River, N.J., James E. Ward, of West Lafayette, Ind., and Sara Jane Ward Tufo and her husband, Joseph A. Tufo, of Portsmouth, N.H.; three grandchildren, Jill M. Ward and her husband, Charles E. Zaccaria III; and great-grandsons, Michael Ward Zaccaria of South Portland, Maine, Adam M. Ward and his wife, Amanda, Andrew Clinton Ward, of Poulsbo, Wash., and Matthew P. Ward and his wife, Elizabeth, of Paris, France. She is also survived by a sister-in-law, Lois Niederer, of North Warren; and three nieces. Visiting hours will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. Friday at CONROY-TULLY CRAWFORD SOUTH PORTLAND CHAPEL, 1024 Broadway, South Portland. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday in St. Bartholomew Church, 8 Two Lights Road, Cape Elizabeth. Her earthly remains will be interred in the Ward family plot at St. Mary's Cemetery, Monongahela, at a date later in the spring. Online condolences may be expressed at www.ctcrawford.com. In lieu of flowers, donations should be made to one's favorite charity with special consideration given to the Iris Network of Maine, 189 Park Avenue, Portland, Maine 04102, The Talking Books Program of the Maine State Library, 64 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0064 and Gosnell Memorial Hospice House, 11 Hunnewell Road, Scarborough, Maine 04074.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Mary Jupin
Belle Vernon

Mary Stone Jupin, 84, of Belle Vernon, died Monday, February 11, 2008, in Meadowcrest Nursing Home, Bethel Park. A daughter of the late Scott and Olive Harger Stone, she was born in Meadville on August 20, 1923. She was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Belle Vernon. A lifelong resident of Belle Vernon, Mary had many friends and loved playing bingo and cards, the more the merrier. She had been employed as a licensed practical nurse at the former Charleroi-Monessen Hospital for 17 years and worked at the Belle Vernon Kmart store for several years. Survivors include two daughters and sons-in-law, Sandy "DeeDee" and David Bergstedt, of Monessen, and Janet and Jerry Falibota, of Frederick, Md.; two sons and daughters-in-law, George E. and Cathy Jupin, of Tarpon Springs, Fla., and Scott and Janice Jupin, of Belle Vernon; 12 grandchildren, Meri Labick and husband, John, of Latrobe, Jill Apel and husband, Steve, of Tarpon Springs, Dana Bergstedt, of Ashville, N.C., Heidi Niesen and husband, Doug, of Venetia, Tippi Dolfi and husband, Derrick, of Rostraver Township, Keri Jupin, of Tarpon Springs, David Bergstedt and wife, Dana, of Monessen, Danny Jupin, of Tarpon Springs, Shane Falibota and wife, Becky, of Frederick, Md., Shelley Falibota and fiance, Michael, of Chevy Chase, Md., and Scott and Zachary Jupin, of Belle Vernon; 10 great-grandchildren, Natalie Dolfi, Wil Niesen, Alexis Apel, Ashley Dolfi, Tommy Labick, Ben Niesen, Rylie Dolfi, Rachael Niesen, Michael Apel and Victoria Bergstedt; and two lifelong friends, Margaret Delores Modrak and Agnes Krivyanek. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, George Jupin, on May 13, 1966; and one brother, Vincent Stone. Friends will be received from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, February 13, in the FERGUSON FUNERAL HOME and CREMATORY INC., www.FergusonFuneralHomeAndCrematory.com, (724-929-5300), 700 Broad Ave., Belle Vernon. Funeral services will be in the First Presbyterian Church on Thursday, February 14, at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Suzanne Currie officiating. Interment will follow in Belle Vernon Cemetery. The elders and members of the First Presbyterian Church will meet in the funeral home to hold services Wednesday at 2 p.m.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

CORRECTIONS / CLARIFICATIONS

BVA honor roll

Dennis Lynn, a freshman at Belle Vernon Area High School, received high honors for the second quarter of the 2007-2008 year. His name was inadvertently omitted from the honors list.

In Memory Of
Ralph Silbaugh
A Birthday Tribute today, February 13, in loving memory of our beloved father, grandfather and great-grandfather, Ralph Silbaugh, who would have been 95 years old. Today is your birthday without candles and cake, and since you're not with us we won't celebrate. On a sad day like this there is not much to say, but ask God to honor you in His own way. And grant us one wish and make it come true, to have His choir of Angels sing "Happy Birthday" to you.
Sadly missed and loved by Children, Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren

In Memory Of
Nick Smerilli
In loving memory of my beloved father, Nick Smerilli who passed away 1 year ago today, February 13, 2007.
They say time heals all sorrows and helps us to forget
but time so far has only proved how much we miss you yet.
God gave us strength to fight it and courage to bear the blow
but what it meant to lose you no one will ever know.
Sadly missed and loved by daughter, Kathy

Well-known television personality dead at 85

Bill Currie worked as a KDKA sports announcer from 1971 to the mid-1980s.

By TONY LaRUSSA
For The Valley Independent
tlarussa@tribweb.com

Bill Currie, a legendary Pittsburgh TV sports commentator known for donning brightly colored sports coats adorned with a boutonniere, has died.

Mr. Currie died of a brain hemorrhage on Monday, Feb. 11, 2008, in Yelm, Wash., where he was living with his daughter. He was 85.

"Between the outrageous outfits he wore, the toupee, the flowers in his lapel and his outspokenness, he was quite the character," said retired sportscaster Sam Nover, who worked at WPXI when Mr. Currie was on the air at KDKA from 1971 to the mid-1980s.

"When it came to sportscasting, we were on totally opposite ends of the spectrum," Nover said. "I took it all very seriously, while Bill saw humor in everything.

"Despite our differences, we became friends. He was the first person to call and congratulate me when good things happened in my career, like when I went to work for the network in 1979."

Prior to coming to Pittsburgh, Mr. Currie was the voice of University of North Carolina "Tar Heels" sports teams and was known by the nickname "the Mouth of the South." Most Pittsburghers, however, knew him as "Sweet Ol' Bill."

Steelers announcer Bill Hillgrove, who worked for competitor WTAE, said Mr. Currie's "act" was a key to his success.

"If I ever said anything funny on the air it was by accident," Hillgrove said. "But Bill was very humorous and had that homespun charm. He was entertaining, and people enjoyed that about him."

KDKA anchor Patrice King Brown, who was hosting the variety show "Pittsburgh Today" when Mr. Currie was on the air, recalls visiting the station's news operation, where Mr. Currie agreed to "sit down and talk to me about my interest in moving over to news."

"The first thing he said was: 'Put that notebook away because I'm not going to say anything important,'" King Brown said. "But then he went on to give me some advice that has served me well for the past 30 years. He told me: 'The people in this city will see through a phony in a heartbeat. So be yourself, and you will find your niche.'"

VALLEY GRAPEVINE

Washington Twp. meeting tonight

The Washington Township Supervisors will meet 7 p.m. today at the ambulance building.

St. Paul grocery bingo canceled

Grocery bingo scheduled for 7 p.m. today at St. Paul Episcopal Church, Monongahela, has been canceled.

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT

Mark Wilson, Monongahela

The following case was brought before Magisterial District Judge Mark Wilson in Monongahela:

■ Sherry Lynn Santo, 36, of 100 Thompson Ave., Donora, was charged with DUI and various traffic violations Aug. 22 by Carroll Township police. The DUI and some traffic charges were waived to court while other traffic offenses were withdrawn.

NEWS

TODAY IN HISTORY

FEBRUARY 13

Today is Wednesday, Feb. 13, the 44th day of 2008. There are 322 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight

On Feb. 13, 1935, a jury in Flemington, N.J., found Bruno Richard Hauptmann guilty of first-degree murder in the kidnap-slaying of the son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh. (Hauptmann was later executed.)

On this date:

■ In 1542, the fifth wife of England's King Henry VIII, Catherine Howard, was executed for adultery.

■ In 1795, the University of North Carolina became the first U.S. state university to admit students with the arrival of Hinton James, who was the only student on campus for two weeks.

■ In 1914, the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers, known as ASCAP, was founded in New York.

■ In 1920, the League of Nations recognized the perpetual neutrality of Switzerland.

■ In 1945, during World War II, Allied planes began bombing the German city of Dresden.

■ In 1945, the Soviets captured Budapest, Hungary, from the Germans.

■ In 1960, France exploded its first atomic bomb, in the Sahara Desert.

■ In 1980, the 13th Winter Olympics opened in Lake Placid, N.Y.

■ In 1984, Konstantin Chernenko was chosen to be general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee, succeeding the late Yuri Andropov.

■ In 1988, the 15th winter Olympics opened in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

■ **Ten years ago**: Dr. David Satcher was sworn in as surgeon general during an Oval Office ceremony. The United Auto Workers reached a tentative contract agreement with Caterpillar Inc. (Union members rejected the agreement, which was revised and later ratified, ending a bitter, 6 1/2-year dispute.)

■ **Five years ago**: Clara Harris, who'd run down her cheating husband with her Mercedes after catching him with his mistress, was convicted by a Houston jury of murder despite her claim that she'd hit him accidentally while in a heartsick daze. (Harris was sentenced to 20 years in prison.) An investigative panel found that superheated air almost certainly seeped through a breach in space shuttle Columbia's left wing and possibly its wheel compartment during the craft's fiery descent, resulting in the deaths of all seven astronauts.

■ **One year ago**: Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney officially entered the 2008 presidential race in Michigan.

Associated Press

Iraqi women and children pass a checkpoint today in the Azamiyah neighborhood in north Baghdad.

Deal reached to free kidnapped journalists

Kidnappings of Westerners have become infrequent recently.

By HAMID AHMED
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD — A deal has been reached with kidnappers for the release of two CBS News journalists, radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's office in Basra said today.

Harith al-Ethari, a director of al-Sadr's office in the southern Iraqi city, said negotiations had persuaded the kidnappers to release the British journalist and his Iraqi interpreter later today.

"We reached an agreement with kidnappers to hand over the Iraqi interpreter to the police command in Basra and the British journalist will be handed over to al-Sadr's office in Basra this afternoon," al-Ethari told The Associated Press. He did not give a specific time.

Iraqi police and witnesses said the two were seized Sunday from a hotel in Basra, 340 miles southeast of Baghdad.

CBS News said Monday that two journalists working for it were missing in Basra, but it did not identify them and has requested their names not be released if obtained.

Basra, Iraq's second-largest city, has seen fierce fighting between rival Shiite militias as part of a power struggle in the oil-rich south.

Al-Ethari did not identify the kidnappers but said Sadrist mediators had persuaded the kidnappers to drop their demands and release the hostages. He refused to list the original demands ahead of the release.

Earlier, an Iraqi police official in Basra familiar with the negotiations said talks had started at 3 p.m. Tuesday and continued until midnight, then resumed three hours later.

Kidnappings of Westerners and Iraqis — for political motives or ransom — were common in the past but have become infrequent recently with a decline in violence.

Since 2004, three journalists — Fakher Haider of The New York Times, as well as James Brandon of Britain and New York freelancer Steven Vincent — have been abducted in Basra, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists. Brandon was released, but Vincent and Haider were murdered, it said.

According to CPJ, at least 51 journalists have been abducted in Iraq since 2004. The New York-based group said the majority was released, but 12 were killed.

CPJ, which has recorded at least 126 journalists killed since the U.S.-led war started in March 2003, also condemned the murder of a 27-year-old Iraqi journalist this week in Baghdad.

The bullet-riddled body of Hisham Michwit Hamdan was found Tuesday, two days after he disappeared after leaving the offices of the Young Journalists League to buy notebooks and pens at a market in the central Baghdad district of Bab al-Mudham.

League chief Haider Hasoun al-Moussawi said Hamdan had joined the independent organization when it was established in 2003 as a media watchdog and had not reported any threats.

Iraqi legislators, meanwhile, were engaged in urgent discussions a day after the speaker of the fragmented parliament threatened to disband the legislature, saying it is so riddled with distrust it appeared unable to adopt the budget or agree on a law setting a date for provincial elections.

Disbanding parliament would prompt new elections within 60 days and further undermine Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's shaky government, which is limping along with nearly half of the 40 Cabinet posts vacant.

The disarray undermines the purpose of last year's influx of U.S. troop — to bring down violence enough to allow the Iraqi government and parliament to focus on measures to reconcile differences among minority Sunnis and Kurds and the majority Shiites. Violence is down dramatically, but political progress languishes.

Hospital administrator suspected of giving patient information to al-Qaida

Unidentified man detained in probe of Feb. 1 bombings.

BAGHDAD (AP) — The acting administrator of a psychiatric hospital in Baghdad has been detained on suspicion that he had a role in supplying patient information to al-Qaida in Iraq, the U.S. military said today.

Rear Adm. Gregory Smith, a military spokesman, said U.S. and Iraqi forces arrested the man in his office Sunday and conducted a "thorough search" of the al-Rashad psychiatric hospital in Baghdad.

"Coalition forces detained a hospital administrator in connection with the possible exploitation of mentally impaired women by al-Qaida," Smith said.

"The administrator remains in coalition force detention and is being questioned to determine what role if any in supplying al-Qaida with information regarding patients at the al-Rashad psychiatric hospital or from other medical facilities in Baghdad," he added.

He said the man, whom he did not identify, was detained as part of the investigation into the Feb. 1 bombings of two crowded pet markets in Baghdad. He said he could not provide more details, citing the ongoing investigation.

U.S. and Iraqi officials blamed al-Qaida for the bombings and said the bombers were two mentally disabled women strapped with remote-control explosives and apparently did not know they were being used. Iraqi officials put the death toll at 99 in both attacks.

POLICE LOG

Charleroi

■ Jamelle Blasko, of 821 Prospect Ave., reported to police that two tires on her car were slashed 6:15 a.m. Saturday.

Carroll Township

■ Keith Lenhart, 35, of 7 Surrey Drive, Carroll Township, was charged with simple assault and harassment 9 p.m. Monday at his home, police reported. He was arraigned before Magisterial District Judge Larry Hopkins and remanded to the Washington County Correctional Facility after failing to post $25,000 cash bond.

■ A woman attending a party Monday at 18 Center Ave., in the Victory Hill section of Carroll Township, had her credit cards stolen from her purse, which were used at various businesses in the area, police reported.

■ A woman reported Sunday that while at Ecks Bar she had her purse entered and several items taken, including credit cards, jewelry and cash. The credit cards were later used at area businesses, police reported.

California

■ Several people were charged after police answered a call at Jefferson Apartments 1:37 a.m. Saturday concerning a large party taking place in building 10.

Charged with underage drinking in the incident were:

Bentley D. Keller, 20; Shane Michael Campbell, 18; Elizabeth Mar Nicholson, 18; Katie Ann Carnes, 19; Mallory Marie Onusko, 19; Alicia A. Heinbaugh, 19; and two 17-year-old males, all of Connellsville; Joshua J. Hodgkiss, 20; Jeremy Lee Eutsey, 20; and a 16-year-old female, all of Scottdale; Kyle Lee Olinger, 20, Mt. Pleasant; and Molly Kellberg Sanko, 18, Fairview.

Charged with disorderly conduct were:

Michael A. Shinsky, 23, Scottdale; Joshua Justin Overly, 23, Ruffs Dale; George S. Cable Jr., 21, Dawson; and Andrew James Schiavoni, 21, West Mifflin.

More charges are pending, police said.

■ Dana Ann Hilty, 27, of Gibsonia, was cited for disorderly conduct after an incident that occurred at JColes Tavern, police said.

■ Jerry Lee Kreiser, 21, Carlisle, was charged with DUI after his vehicle was stopped 2:15 a.m. Sunday on Second Street, police said.

State police, Belle Vernon

■ Various items valued at $735 were removed from the Turkeytown Volunteer Fire Department sometime Thursday, police reported. There was no forcible entry, according to police.

■ Thomas Sherwin, of Finleyville, reported to police that someone damaged the driver's side door handle and lock on his 2001 Mercury Sable sedan. Anyone with information on this incident is asked to call state police at (724) 929-6262.

PENNSYLVANIA CASH 5

'Cash 5' jackpot at least $225,000

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) — Today's "Pennsylvania Cash 5" jackpot will be worth at least $225,000 because no player matched the five winning numbers drawn in Tuesday's game.

Lottery officials said 65 players matched four numbers and won $258.50 each; 2,474 players matched three numbers and won $11.50 each; and 31,177 players matched two numbers and won $1 each.

Valley LOTTERY RESULTS

38 25 33 25

PENNSYLVANIA DAILY NUMBERS — TUESDAY, FEB. 12

DAY PICK 3:	2-7-1
NIGHT PICK 3:	2-1-9
DAY PICK BIG 4:	7-9-9-5
NIGHT PICK BIG 4:	6-7-3-3
TREASURE HUNT:	1-13-14-16-25
CASH 5:	4-29-30-31-34
MATCH 6:	4-16-23-33-42-48

OHIO DAILY NUMBERS — TUESDAY, FEB. 12

DAY PICK 3:	8-5-0
NIGHT PICK 3:	6-6-8
DAY PICK 4:	4-1-5-9
NIGHT PICK 4:	7-1-1-4
ROLLING CASH 5:	10-15-16-24-25

WEST VIRGINIA DAILY NUMBERS — TUESDAY, FEB. 12

DAILY 3:	0-4-2
DAILY 4:	6-0-8-7
CASH 25:	3-6-7-11-18-24

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of winning numbers and prize payouts. In the event of a discrepancy, the official and certified files maintained by the Pennsylvania Lottery's Security Office shall prevail.

Find your place here.

Academic Open House – Monday, Feb. 18
Register at www.cup.edu or call 724-938-1626

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THE Valley INDEPENDENT

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OUR OPINION

Cieply's legacy filled with service

THE CITY OF MONESSEN lost a great community advocate and public servant the other day.

When Joe Cieply died last week, he left behind a legacy of service to the town he loved.

A friendly, approachable kind of guy, Cieply served on city council in the mid 1970s and again from 1978 to 1990.

As they mourned the loss, current and former public officials said they would remember Cieply as a hard worker, a mentor and a friend.

Quick with a smile, Cieply was serious about his job. He took on tasks with great fervor, working tirelessly on projects that he believed in.

And no task was too small or unimportant to occupy his time and attention. If someone came before council with a problem — no matter how inconsequential it might have seemed to some — Cieply would work to resolve the issue.

He always followed through and never forgot about the people who put him in office.

Cieply's years in the steel mills of Monessen and Allenport taught him the value of hard work and perhaps gave him the ability to relate easily to the common man.

Because of that, he was a natural liaison between taxpayers and city officials.

And though he retired years ago from public life, Cieply was still visible around his beloved city and always kept his finger on the pulse of the community.

He remained active in his church and in veterans organizations, too, and we're sure those folks will miss him as well.

Former Mayor Jim Sepesky recalled that Cieply worked hard toward completion of the city's Veterans Memorial as well as the soccer field at Shawnee Park.

It's not surprising that Cieply's death would evoke those kinds of memories, because that's the kind of guy he was. Once he had his eyes on a project, he would work tenaciously until it was done.

He was remembered as a mentor, a fiscal watchdog, a hard worker and a friend.

We'd like to add to that list of attributes if we could — loyal, diligent and caring.

Joe Cieply was the epitome of a public servant, working selflessly for the betterment of his community and often putting the needs of others before his own.

For these reasons and many, many more, he will be missed.

ANOTHER VIEW

Akron (Ohio) Beacon Journal, on the Food and Drug Administration:

Anyone paying attention to reviews of the Food and Drug Administration is aware by now that the regulatory agency is so overburdened, it poses a national health risk. ...

As domestic and foreign production soars, the FDA has been stretched to the point of collapse. The agency is unable to keep up with its schedule of inspections of the domestic and foreign plants. ...

A string of contaminated foods and recalls of flawed devices and drugs can quickly undermine confidence in the safety of products that reach every American home. What will it take for Congress and the White House to address the neglect and provide the Food and Drug Administration with the resources to ensure the necessary level of safety?

How to reach us

The Valley Independent welcomes the input of our readers. Letters, e-mails and faxes must be signed and should include an address and daytime telephone number so the content of the message can be verified. (Phone numbers will not be published.)

Send your comments:

— By mail to Your Opinion, *The Valley Independent*, Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa. 15062.

— By e-mail to valleyletters@tribweb.com

— By fax to (724) 684-2603.

All messages are subject to editing for clarification, brevity and libel. Messages should be kept to 300 words. (No poetry, please.) While letters usually are published in order of submission, those concerning timely local issues are given priority.

Can't handle the truth

Charley **REESE**

One of the great intellectual errors in our time has been caused by the physical sciences. It's not what you think. Science and scientific methods are OK. They often produce results, some of which are actually beneficial. No, the problem is that science made the humanities jealous.

Science works by measurement and analysis. Let's take this lump of coal and break it down into all its chemical components and measure the amounts of each component. Doing that will give us a pretty good idea of just what coal is.

The trouble is that life and art are much more complex and variable than a lump of coal. Counting the brush strokes and analyzing the pigments will not tell you anything really useful about a painting, nor does detailed analysis work with literature or with sociology.

When I finally got a chance to see the "Mona Lisa" in the Louvre, I saw immediately why so many people are attracted to it. Yet I can't tell you what it is about that painting that makes it so different from thousands of other portraits. And no one else can, including, quite probably, Leonardo da Vinci himself. Some things just happen, and some things can only be experienced. Analysis, outside of the physical sciences, is overrated, though it keeps a lot of pedants employed.

Another mistake that arose from jealousy of the physical sciences was the misnamed fields of social science and political science. Neither is a science, and scientific methodology, beyond simple observation, doesn't work.

This has led to the great conceit that every phenomenon in the human parade is a problem that can be analyzed and solved. If that were true, one would think that war, crime and poverty would have been eliminated a long time ago, and the political process made much more rational than it is. Add to that conceit the cowardice that is rampant in academia and you can see why no successful outcomes are achieved.

An example of cowardice is the way most academics treat the subject of IQ as if it were a radioactive hot stove, not to mention the subject of genetics when it is applied to such things as a tendency toward criminal behavior. Our society, like every other, is committed to certain fairy tales and is ready to wreck the career of any skeptic who challenges these holy dogmas. To paraphrase a movie character, we can't handle the truth.

Human nature, it seems, just doesn't change and is the same across the centuries and across the races and nations. We would do well to shuck all the academic pretensions, forever ban utopians and lower our expectations considerably in regard to improving the human situation. Science, pseudoscience and religion all have failed to eliminate the negative traits that make the human race so incorrigible.

When I was a kid, I used to think the Founding Fathers were all geniuses, but I know now that with the exceptions of Ben Franklin and Thomas Jefferson, they were not. What they were, however, were realists. They knew in their hearts, from their own experiences, that humans could never be trusted to always do the right thing. That's why they devised a system of government that is full of checks and balances and divides power five ways to Sunday. They did their best to make it difficult for any one man or party to seize total power.

We, being the flawed humans we are, sometimes forget that, but so far enough people have remembered the lesson to keep us free from a dictatorship. Thinking people will always put a higher value on freedom than on security, because they know that security is just another utopian illusion. We are, after all, a dangerous and violent species living on a dangerous planet. For a much more learned discussion of some of these ideas, read "From Dawn to Decadence" by Jacques Barzun.

Obama skirts the 'L' word

Diana **WEST**

Something went by in a blur on the road to Super Tuesday. The National Journal ranked Sen. Barack Obama the No. 1 liberal U.S. senator of 2007. Sen. Hillary Clinton came in somewhat less left-wing at No. 16.

Horrors. According to his press notices, Obama isn't supposed to be any kind of a liberal at all — let alone "Number One" — but rather the great non-partisan hand-holder and country re-maker. As in: "We (have to) decide to join hands and remake this country." (My response: Why? It's pretty well-made already.) Turns out he's not so non-partisan after all, at least not according to the, well, non-partisan criteria first devised by the National Journal back in 1981.

Not that you have to be a political scientist to figure this out. Just take a look at Obama's endorsements from MoveOn.Org, Ted Kennedy and more than 80 lawyers representing detainees at Guantanamo Bay. Or his positions on illegal aliens, raising taxes on "the wealthy" or talking Muslim world leaders into taking our side in the "war on terror" (despite the fact that some of them are busy abetting or even waging that same war against us).

Once upon a time, such positions could only be staked on the far left. With Obama occupying them, however, they become the dreamy landscape of non-partisan epiphany. As the Washington Post campaign blog The Trail noted: "(His) is a platform that, delivered by others, might well be viewed as hewing to long-standing, traditional liberal notions. Yet Obama wraps it into his message of national transformation, making it sound part of a whole new package, and by the time he gets to his trademark crescendo conclusion, every person in the arena is standing ..."

Guess it's not easy to stand and think "liberal" at the same time — especially with trademark crescendos dancing in your head. The disconnect has served the Obama camp well, allowing it to run far on thin and gaseous vapors of non-partisan "hope" and "change." That's why nobody at Obama headquarters was enthused by Obama's solid ideological victory as Top Senate Liberal for his votes as a leading anti-war senator supporting the withdrawal of American troops from Iraq, amnesty for illegal aliens, and a host of liberal initiatives on health care, education, energy and the budget. Such a record sounds downright McGovernesque. But don't mention that out loud. After all, Barack Obama is a presidential candidate who likes to say, "There's not a liberal America and a conservative America — there is the United States of America." What if it got out that there is also a very liberal Barack Obama?

We don't know the answer to that, because it is "hope" and "change," not liberalism, that Obama is supposed to stand for. Maybe that's why, as Obama spokeswoman Jen Psaki told the National Journal, Obama is "the only candidate who's shown the ability to appeal to Republicans and the ability to appeal to independents."

The fact is, being Top Senate Liberal isn't part of the official narrative of the Obama movement. And the campaign seems to want to keep it that way. Dismissing the National Journal senate rankings, Obama spokesman Bill Burton told ABC: "The tendency of Washington to apply a misleading label to every person and idea is just one of the many things we need to change about how things operate inside the Beltway."

Here's hoping we never find out how an Obama administration would "change" freedom of labeling. But misleading? On the contrary, "liberal" aptly describes Obama's point of view (not to mention Mrs. Clinton's). But notice the difference between Republicans and Democrats when it comes to political labels. Republicans struggle over who will wear the "conservative" mantle, while Democrats strike a "Who, me?" pose when it comes to carrying the "liberal" flag. The National Journal put it this way: both Democratic presidential contenders "have emphasized their liberal policy positions. But neither has embraced the liberal label the way Republican presidential candidates have proudly stamped themselves conservatives."

This goes, of course, for John McCain, whose claims to conservatism are unconvincing to many conservatives. Incidentally, the National Journal doesn't help much in this regard. Turns out McCain missed too many votes in 2007 to score a ranking. I'd say that's lucky for him, as he grabs at that conservative mantle. He might have given Sens. Clinton and Obama some pretty stiff competition.

Diana West is a columnist for The Washington Times. She can be contacted via dianawest@verizon.net.

Frugal Living

A little extra cash comes in handy

Sara **NOEL**

Sometimes, frugality isn't enough. There are times when you need a few extra bucks to supplement your income, but an additional full-time job isn't necessary.

It can be a challenge to find ways to make extra money with constraints such as childcare and scheduling. The part-time jobs with mom's hours are filled quickly, and work-from-home options sometimes require an investment or specialized knowledge. While selling items online, bartering, delivery service and cleaning are popular, there are alternative ways to make ends meet so you're not living on the edge or competing with the college crowd.

MYSTERY SHOPPING: Companies pay people to shop secretly to observe and assess their products and services. It's a great way to make extra money and try out establishments such as restaurants and department stores for free. It's a good option for moms because they can often take their kids. Don't ever send money to anyone for secret shopping information. For more information, visit Web sites such as Volition (www.volition.com) and Corporate Research International (www.mysteryshops.com).

ONLINE SURVEYS: While you won't get rich, doing a few paid surveys can help you make money with little effort. Some people don't like them because of the time involved for low pay, but if you have a little free time, it's not a bad option. Try companies such as Pinecone Research (www.pineconeresearch.com), My Survey (www.mysurvey.com), Global Test Market (www.globaltestmarket.com) and Survey Savvy (www.surveysavvy.com).

PERSONAL SHOPPER: If you have a good eye, are well organized, creative or always seem to buy the perfect gift, personal shopping might be a great way for you to moonlight. Services can include apparel, grocery or gift shopping, home floral things or errands.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZER: If you've always had a knack for keeping things tidy and in their place, consider being paid for organizing. You can set your hours, and start-up costs are low. You can do hands-on organizing, [illegible] a combination of both. For more information, visit Get Organized at [illegible] (www.getorganizedtoday.com).

PERFORMING AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION: If you're a teacher, play an instrument, excel at a sport or hobby, craft or know a foreign language, tutoring or teaching a community class may be the perfect way to earn money.

CUSTOMER SERVICE: If you're able to set up a professional atmosphere at home with a phone, computer and [illegible] people per day, look into home-based customer service jobs. You have the flexibility to create your own hours. For more information, visit Liveops (www.liveops.com), MetaTeam (www.ajamaccess.com), VIPdesk (www.vipdesk.com), Arise (www.arise.com) and West at Home (www.westathome.com).

WRITING/BLOGGING: Setting up a blog is as easy as one, two, three. You can sign up for a free blog at Web sites such as Blogger (www.blogger.com) or Wordpress (www.wordpress.com). Once established, you can add advertising such as Google Adsense (www.google.com) to make money. There are also Web sites such as Helium (www.helium.com), Associated Content (www.associatedcontent.com), Hubpages (www.hubpages.com) and Constant Content (www.constantcontent.com) where you can make money for writing articles. If that's more writing than you care to undertake, you could create custom letters for kids. For example, try writing personalized letters from the tooth fairy. To expand upon this idea, you can assemble fun activity kits to mail for kids. The kits can include things such as recipes, crafts, stickers and toys.

MEAL PREPPING/COOKING: Whether for a busy family, someone sick or for the elderly, once word gets out you'll prep or cook a meal for a reasonable amount of money, you'll be thrilled with your new cash flow. You can consider broadening your service to include additional mother's-helper tasks such as laundry and light errands.

Sara Noel is the owner of Frugal Village (www.frugalvillage.com), a Web site that offers practical, money-saving strategies for everyday living. To send tips, comments or questions, write to Sara Noel, c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10016, or e-mail sara@frugalvillage.com.

ANNIVERSARIES

The Vrescaks in 1958

The couple today

Vrescak 50th

George and Walda Vrescak, of Long Branch, observed their 50th wedding anniversary on Jan. 25, 2008. They celebrated with the exchange of new rings and with the greetings and gifts of family and friends.

George Vrescak is the son of the late Julius and Evelyn Vrescak, and his wife is the former Walda Brewer, daughter of the late Clarence and Margaret Brewer.

The couple has resided in Long Branch most of their married lives.

They are the parents of four children and also have seven grandchildren.

VALLEY CLUB NOTES

CD of A Court 776

Catholic Daughters of Americas Monessen Court 776 recently had its January meeting in the main hall of Epiphany Church. The members recited the rosary for the increase of vocations for priests since it was National Vocation Awareness Week.

Regent Pat Godla called the meeting to order and led the opening ceremonies. The roll call of officers showed that the Rev. Dave Nazimek and Secretary Virginia Saunders were both absent. Dolores Stankovich was introduced and welcomed as a new member. The color red is the theme for the month.

Rose Marie Lesovic, recording secretary, read the previous meeting minutes and correspondence. Patsi Buberniak presented the treasurer's report. The committee chairwoman gave reports. The Mary's Garden Fundraiser and Pennies for Life are both ongoing activities. Mary Ann Gallo reported that the Education Contest deadline is Feb. 25.

There were no January birthdays to recognize, so cupcakes were presented to Stankovich, Ethel Peshok, Gloria Hayes, and Godla for their December birthdays. Half the take was awarded to Stankovich. Gallo, Dolly Cieply, and Janet Mandarino won door prizes.

The next meeting will be held Feb. 19 and will be a baby shower. Members are asked to bring items such as sweater sets, crib sheets, baby wash, shampoo, lotion, wipes, and diapers, which will then be donated to Lifeline of Southwestern Pennsylvania.

The singing of the closing ode and the reciting of three Hail Marys for the fall of terrorism brought the meeting to a close.

Godla then thanked the January committee for the dessert and the rest of the evening was spent enjoying

St. Barbara's Altar Guild

St. Barbara's Altar Guild convened Feb. 5 in the social area of the Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church, Belle Vernon.

President Toni Costella opened the session by asking the women and guests to gather around the food table to give thanks and pray The Lord's Prayer. A Valentine theme was the setting for the annual Valentine covered dish social.

Following dinner Costella conducted a short business meeting.

Secretary Martha Zeli read the minutes of the January meeting. Treasurer Sophia Krill gave her report. Both were approved. Mary Peffer reported on religious articles. There was no sunshine report.

It was announced that Baba's Special Recipe Easter Paska sale will be held March 13-15. Deadline for ordering will be March 9. Advance orders will be taken by calling (724) 929 5529 or (724) 929 8361.

Gloria Youshak was reinstated as a member of the guild.

Costella gave an update on the rectory renovation. The guild purchased a French door and a microwave oven.

Chalk artist Bette Morton had to cancel her presentation. Games were played with prizes of valentine boxes filled with chocolate kisses being awarded. Winners were Sally Spina and Wendy Hatalowich. Mary Peffer won the attendance prize. Augie Soroka won an optical cube cross.

The next meeting will be held March 4. Hostess will be Costella.

ENGAGEMENTS

Kristin Perozzi & Kenneth Stockman

Perozzi-Stockman

Jim and Kathi Perozzi, of Monessen, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Kristin, to Kenneth Stockman, of Lisbon, Ohio. He is the son of Kim and Michelle Vollnogle and Brent Stockman, all of Lisbon.

Perozzi, a 1998 graduate of Monessen High School, received her bachelor of science degree in business administration with a major in accounting. She is employed by the Mountaineer Race Track and Gaming Resort in Chester, W.Va., as an internal auditor.

Her fiancé is a graduate of David Anderson Junior-Senior High School in Lisbon. He is employed by Hilltop Energy Inc., where he is an operating engineer.

The couple is planning a November 2008 wedding at Oglebay Park in West Virginia.

David A. Dellipoali & Jacqueline M. Casoni

Casoni-Dellipoali

[illegible] and Richard [illegible] of Belle Vernon, and [illegible] Christine Casoni of [illegible], have announced the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Jacqueline M. Casoni, formerly of Belle Vernon, to [illegible] Dellipoali, of North Plainfield, N.J. He is the son of Michael and [illegible] also from North Plainfield.

The bride-to-be is a graduate of The [illegible] State [illegible] Campus, and [illegible] of arts in communications. She is currently employed as the Director of Business Development for the state of [illegible] Caliper, a consulting firm in Princeton, N.J.

Her fiancé graduated The [illegible] Institute of [illegible] with an architectural engineering degree and is employed as a [illegible] operator of [illegible] services, a [illegible] disposal company in northern New Jersey.

The couple is planning a June 21, 2008, wedding at Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, Uniontown. A reception will follow at Green Gables Restaurant in Boswell.

Jones-Jones

[illegible] and Karen Jones, of [illegible], have announced the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Stacey Marie, to Patrick William Jones.

The bride-elect is a 2003 graduate of Connellsville Area High School and is currently working toward a degree in [illegible] from [illegible] County Community College. She is employed as an Angel Caregiver in Audubon.

Her fiancé is the son of William and [illegible] Jones, of Stewart. He is a 2002 graduate of Albert Gallatin High School and is employed by General [illegible].

Patrick W. Jones & Stacey M. Jones

The couple is planning a June 21, 2008, wedding.

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mvcec.org
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Evening certificate programs
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- Effective Supervision Series - course begins March 4th
California University
Daytime certificate program
- Uniform Construction Code Official Training – course begins March 4th (Distance-learning course)
Westmoreland County Community College
Evening credit course and certificate program
- Electronics Engineering Technology – course begins March 10
Capital Communications Inc.
Business Performance Seminars
– seminars begin March 10
Courses offered at Mon Valley Career and Technology Center, Speers. For more information on MVCEC sponsored courses visit http://www.MVCEC.org
Call: 1-888-883-0825

YOUNG VOICES

Local students ready to take over state government

The Pennsylvania State Youth and Government Program set to assume control of Capitol.

By TYLER VERIN
Young Voices Correspondent

With spring around the corner, many kids in the Valley are getting ready for the season, winding down until the end of the school year or making plans to go out with friends.

But for several students in the Belle Vernon Area, Charleroi Area, Monessen, Ringgold, California Area, Elizabeth Forward and Peters Township school districts, plans are forming for a trip to Harrisburg in April.

This trip isn't to just tour the Capitol, but for the Pennsylvania State Youth and Government Program.

Youth and Government is a state and national year-round program that allows young adults from all over the state - grades 6 - 12 in over 50 clubs - to get together to "run" the government during a three-day weekend.

Students can choose to be part of the legislative branch or the judicial branch.

In the Mon Valley, the Youth and Government program is sponsored by the Mon Valley YMCA, and is headed by Adoree Deluca-Johnson and Andrew Johnson.

Spanning all of the surrounding Mon Valley school districts, the club is very diverse.

The club meets each Wednesday at the YMCA.

Members talk about upcoming events and fundraisers, prepare bills for model legislation in April, practice debate and arguments and have fun while learning about the real working government.

When April comes around, all the clubs throughout the state meet in Harrisburg.

While there, participants get to actually take over state government for the three days they meet.

Students use real legislation and judicial desks/materials, get to debate on the House and Senate floors and various courtrooms.

Throughout the weekend, the young adults travel to the Capitol as though they worked there.

In the legislative program, students learn about all the aspects of the real-life legislative branch.

Kids write, make, and debate bills to present in Harrisburg.

Students work year round to get ready for the trip.

Once there, the students first form committees to consider legislation.

If a bill gets committee approval, it then moves on to the House of Representatives.

If the bill is not so lucky, the proposal will not proceed.

When or if the bill passes the House, it will move on to the Senate floor, where once again their peers debate it.

If the bill passes yet again, it will be taken to the desk of the Pennsylvania State Youth Governor to sign it.

After being signed, the bill has a chance to be picked up by a real Pennsylvania legislator to be debated in real life in hopes of becoming a state law.

In the judicial program, students learn about all the aspects of the real life judicial branch.

The youths are given a case early in the year to prepare a brief and argument.

For this, students gather information to present their arguments in front of a panel of elected youths in the program, who serve as Supreme Court justices.

The students who present their arguments are part of attorney teams, and compete in a tournament.

Typically, the participants find this process grueling, and yet find the judicial program challenging in a positive way.

The Youth and Government Program is a statewide program, where young people literally run the program.

In elections for governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the House, various committee chair positions, row officers, bailiffs, judges, and chief justice, the students run it all.

Here are the Mon Valley Youth & Government officers: (front row) Stephen Weinstein, California Middle School, chaplain; Cheyenne Spanovich, Ringgold High School, treasurer; and Jenn Murphy, Charleroi, secretary; (back row) Jon Hill, Elizabeth-Forward, fund-raising chairman; Laura Guarinoni, Ringgold, historian; Tyler Verin, Belle Vernon Area High School, parliamentarian; and Kevin Ray, Peters Township, vice president. Missing from the photo is president Tyler Menzler, Ringgold.

This year, the Mon Valley delegation holds several offices, including chief justice, attorney general, a bailiff, a clerk, a secretary, two committee chairs, and the YGA speaker of the House.

All of these positions were won at an elections convention in November, with the exception of the chief justice seat, which was won last April.

Youth and Government is open to new members, and anyone can join the club, whether a member of the YMCA or not, and can enjoy a great civic experience.

For information about the Mon Valley Youth & Government), contact Adoree DeLuca-Johnson at the Mon Valley YMCA at (724) 483- 8077.

(Tyler Verin is a freshman at Belle Vernon Area High School.)

Not all students follow tradition

More and more people are entering college many years after graduating from high school.

By TASHA OSKEY
Young Voices Correspondent

Joyce George never considered herself to be the ideal student in high school.

Her grades were not good and she didn't think her teachers cared, so attending California University of Pennsylvania many years later was the last thing she would have expected for herself.

George, 39, of Uniontown, was a manager at a McDonald's restaurant when a co-worker told her she would make an excellent teacher.

"This sparked an interest in me and I began to think about going to college and becoming a teacher," George said.

"A part of me had toyed with the idea of being a teacher, but I figured with my grades in high school, it wouldn't happen," George said. "I was one of those students who barely graduated from high school."

George is considered a non-traditional student at Cal U because she decided to enter college later in life.

Non-traditional students are becoming more prevalent on college campuses.

According to Richard Kline, director of institutional research at Cal, in 2007 there were 1,231 non-traditional students out of 6,690 undergraduates and 1,169 non-traditional students out of 1,516 graduates.

Since 2000, non-traditional students have averaged about 18 percent of total enrollment, Kline said.

George now has two degrees from Cal - a bachelor of science and a bachelor of arts in psychology.

She currently is pursuing a post-bachelor's degree in English.

George would like to get a teaching position in a local school district, but plans to continue her education.

"I always said if I ever went to college, I wasn't stopping until I got my masters and doctorate," she said.

Cal has programs geared towards non-traditional students.

During the first week of November, the office of lifelong learning at Cal, participated in the National Non-traditional Student Week, which encouraged anyone to stop by who was thinking of attending college.

Terri Greene, director of lifelong learning, said this event is set up to answer any questions people might have.

"We recognize what you

(See STUDENTS, Page 9A)

Joyce George, 39, of Uniontown, was managing a McDonald's restaurant when she decided to enroll at California University of Pennsylvania. She now has two undergraduate degrees, is working on a master's and may pursue a doctorate.

Writers sought for Young Voices

This month's edition of Young Voices features stories from Belle Vernon Area High School students as well as students in Anthony Carlisle's journalism class at California University of Pennsylvania.

High school writers are needed for the April 9 edition.

To participate, contact Stacy Wolford at (724) 684-2640 or email her at swolford@tribweb.com.

A Student Editorial

Edline can't replace real communication

By MADELINE CARSON and JONATHAN ZORA
Young Voices Correspondents

When was the last time your parents talked to you about your schoolwork or anything for that matter?

With busy schedules, families have less and less time to talk. It seems everything gets in the way - work, band, sports, homework, friends and many that other things seem to consume free time.

So what's the solution?

Could it be Edline?

Edline can be purchased by a school district for about $9,000. It's offered at Belle Vernon Area High School.

Edline offers a sort of "hotline" between parents and the education system. Once an account is established by the school, parents can log on and check their children's grades, homework, projects, progress and even classroom procedures.

The content of each page is determined by what the teacher decides to post there. Schools with Edline typically make updates a requirement for teachers.

So why all the fuss? Isn't it a great way for parents to find out about their child's progress? Or is it a hindrance towards child-parental communication?

To find out, we polled students at BVA. The results of the four classes we polled were mostly positive accolades for Edline.

Most students agreed that it's helpful for obtaining assignments and viewing grades.

Some students said, however, that Edline added to their stress levels and that parents are constantly reviewing their grades.

Edline is a positive program with much potential, but it lacks the communication needed between parents and students.

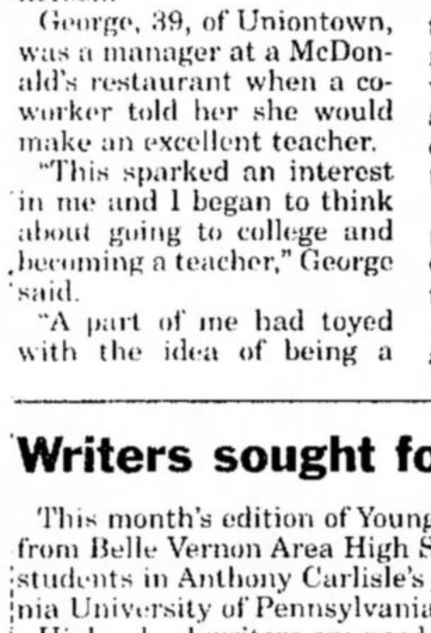
Edline only sees grades at face value; it does not see the story behind it. A number does not show the loss of a friend, problems with bullies, other students or learning disabilities.

One solution could be to have a joint account were a student types one password and the parent types another.

That would open a passage for communication between the two parties.

Edline is an excellent start, but communication is the best finish.

(Madeline Carson and Jonathan Zora are students at Belle Vernon Area High School.)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YOUNG VOICES

Students (FROM PAGE EIGHT)

are up against when you come back to school," Greene said.

According to Greene, the benchmark for non-traditional students is 25 years and older, but she believes it is difficult to define a non-traditional student strictly by his or her age.

"What about a 19-year-old girl, who is a single mother working part-time, and going to school in the evenings? Shouldn't she be considered non-traditional?" Greene asked. "It can't just be based on age, but also on circumstances."

Cal U's office of lifelong learning offers non-traditional students different programs to make it easier for them to go back to school and get a degree.

There is a College Advantage Program, which allows people 60 and older to attend Cal, and their tuition is waived.

Also, there is an evening college program, which gives students the flexibility of working during the day and taking classes in the evening.

These degrees are customized to meet the needs and lifestyle of non-traditional students, Greene said.

"Your distribution sheet is broad and you work within the parameters," Greene said. "Anything would count towards this degree and it builds an area of concentration. "It's a tailored program that works with the student as much as possible."

These are considered specialized programs but there is also the option for non-traditional students to get their degrees online.

However, many non-traditional students decide to go back to college the traditional way by going through the admissions process and starting out as freshmen.

This is exactly what Susan Shroyer, 34, of Masontown decided to do.

"I called the admissions office at Cal and said I wanted to come and do something for myself and here I am," Shroyer said.

Shroyer is a single, working mom with two children, ages 15 and 12. She was tired of scraping by on retail jobs and wanted more for herself.

"When I lost my full-time job, I asked myself what am I doing?" Shroyer said. "I knew I couldn't depend on these types of jobs forever, so I decided the time was right to go back to school."

Shroyer is currently a freshmen and majoring in social work at Cal.

"I think I always knew that I wanted to go back to school, but I wanted to wait until my kids were older," Shroyer said. "I've had a positive experience here so far and nobody treats me any different because I'm older."

Susan Shroyer, 34, of Masontown, is a single, working mom with two children who enrolled at Cal U after she tired of scraping by on retail jobs.

According to Margo Wilson, a journalism professor at Cal, non-traditional students bring experience into the classroom.

"I love non-traditional students," Wilson said. "They value their education and they frequently earn some of the highest grades in the class.

"In groups, they're the ones to whom the other students will turn."

Wilson said they're almost always juggling work, families and careers, but they do it with grace.

"It's a good mix when there's a range of ages in the classroom," Wilson adds.

George said she has been seen by some of her fellow classmates as the wise, older influence.

"It's not necessarily that I'm wise because I'm smart, but because I've been there, done that," George said.

Greene said it's nice to see people coming back to school.

"I've talked to some people one-on-one and at first they are nervous to come back, but then, once they come back, they're so enthusiastic," Greene said. "It's so wonderful to see that."

(Tasha Oskey, of Bethel Park, is a senior at Cal U, majoring in journalism and literature.)

College students often pressured to 'party hearty'

A survey at Cal U showed 95 percent of students use alcohol once a week or more.

By ERIC RIPPEL
Young Voices Correspondent

It's Friday night and my friend asks me if I'm "going drinking."

My last class of the week is done and I'm walking to the parking lot so I can go home to get a few hours of sleep before I go to work at 10 p.m. I tell my friend I can't.

"Sheesh," he complained. "You never come drinking with us."

Then it comes: the stories of the wild parties he's been to with kegs, beer bongs and beer pong and how I'm missing out.

"You're only in college once," he said, "And the beer tastes good after you've downed five or six."

So I go to work and spend the rest of my weekend without ever once letting a drop of alcohol touch my tongue.

My friend said I'm missing out on the experiences of being in college, but I'm not convinced.

How exactly am I missing out by not pouring alcohol down my throat until I can't speak?

According to the *Journal of Studies on Alcohol*, binge drinking is when a person drinks repeatedly to become drunk, giving up regular activities and obligations to be drunk.

The British Medical Association says that to be considered a binge drinker, men must consume more than five alcoholic beverages at a time. For women, it's four.

The sight of a 19 or 20 year-old winding up to take a shot at beer pong is not uncommon on college campuses, said Dorothy Ingram, California University of Pennsylvania's graduate assistant coordinator of CHOICES.

Ingram said the desire of college students to binge drink comes from society's acceptance of underage drinking in college.

"I think drinking's a social event ... It's a desire to fit in, but I also think there's such a societal norm that says if you go to college you have to drink," Ingram said.

According to the 2007 Surgeon General's Call to Action to Prevent and Reduce Underage Drinking, 10.8 million persons ages 12 to 20 are underage drinkers.

A survey on student perceptions regarding alcohol conducted at Cal U showed 95 percent of students perceive the average Cal student as using alcohol once a week or more.

The survey showed 75.9 percent said drinking was an ice-breaker, 74 percent said it enhances social activity, and 50 percent said it facilitates female bonding.

Ingram said people with no history of alcoholism in their family consider drinking in college to be required to have the full college experience.

"Many of these kids are telling me that they never drank or used a drug before they came to college," she said.

Ingram said the limit of exposure to different gateway drugs depends on the social group.

"If you're in a social group that only drinks, you'll just be subjected to that," she said.

Ingram believes the ages between late adolescence and early adulthood are times of new experiences.

"If people are offering it and you don't have a strong, absolutely negative impression of it, then why not try it?" she said.

From her own personal experience, Ingram said Cal U is more stringent on underage drinking than it was when she went there.

"Most of the time I found public safety and the police in town would just slap peo-

(See DRINKING, Page 10A)

Transition to college can cause problems

Freshmen students can find themselves stressed for a variety of reasons.

By STACIE CAROLLA
Young Voices Correspondent

Leaving high school and enrolling at a college has an affect on many students.

Studies show that the freshmen who come into a college setting may become stressed because of the transition or find themselves unable to fulfill the academic requirements, leading them to drop out.

According to Richard Kline, director of institutional research at California University of Pennsylvania, not all undergraduate students from last year returned to campus for the fall semester.

He said that about 79 percent of students came back for the 2007 school year.

According to Dawn M. Moeller, a clinical psychologist at Cal, a lot of students enter college with the excitement of being on their own, not realizing that more responsibility follows.

Once the school year takes off, they then realize that they have to prioritize things themselves and that can lead to stress.

"We see a lot of anxiety and depression with the switch of the students' routines," Moeller said.

Students develop numerous problems academically, socially and financially. The classes that they take are sometimes harder for them to follow than the classes they had at the high school level.

Jillian Anderson, 18, of Belle Vernon, said her chemistry class this semester is much harder than in high school.

Anderson, a graphic and multimedia major, said that her teacher in high school explained everything and she was able to pick up on the material better than in college.

There is a different aspect on the way that freshmen take hold to their academics.

According to Marianne MacBeth, an English professor at Cal, sometimes freshmen are impressed with themselves in a good way.

"Some students come into college with great curiosity," MacBeth said. "They love when a light bulb turns on and they finally get what you're teaching."

(See FRESHMEN, Page 10A)

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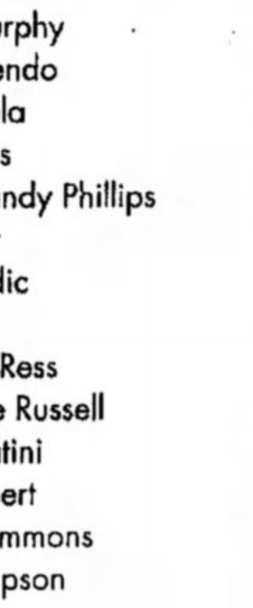

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Drinking (FROM PAGE NINE)

ple on the wrists ... Now they're taking it much more seriously to not enable the behavior," she said.

According to the Cal U police crime statistics and security report in 2006, there were 48 arrests on campus for violations of liquor laws.

In the residence halls, 34 arrests were made. That's a drop from 2004, when there were 64 arrests on campus and 47 in the residence halls.

Ingram said the location of bars placed in the vicinity of college campuses contributes to the social setting of a "drunken college experience."

Ingram said if local distributors and bars limited the exposure to college-age students and stop happy-hour specials, alcohol consumption would decrease.

Prevention programs would have a chance to grow and students would take a harder look at their decisions, she said.

According to a 2001 survey by the American Medical Association, 93 percent of parents with children in college said they believed that easy access to alcohol contributes to excessive drinking.

In addition, Ingram said the fact that bars and distributors often are lax when checking identification adds to enabling underage binge drinking.

Once enabled to drink, students have free reign to party at will. Binge drinking then takes over as normal behavior in a young person's life.

"When partying and drinking is done regularly, it becomes part of your life and so much goes into it that you won't be able to have fun without alcohol," Ingram said.

Laurie Ratter, a clinical psychotherapist at the Clearfield-Jefferson Mental Health Center in Dubois, describes alcohol is "a social lubricant."

She said alcohol helps young people ease through the fast-pace they must set for themselves in their early adult years.

So, Ratter said, binge drinkers get what they want when they drink: immediate relief.

"It isn't intoxication that is sought," Ratter said. "It's numbness and the absence of problems ... It provides immediate and temporary relief to some who feel unattractive or deficient. Alcohol is useful for those who have no incentive for pursuing any worthwhile goals, and it is useful for those who don't know how to say no."

Now underage people are drinking on a regular basis.

So how exactly does this social activity stay fresh in young America?

The popularity of drinking games at college parties has prompted the rise of commercial Web sites such as DrinkingStuff, where people can buy novelties associated with drinking.

This is another example of binge drinking becoming a social event, Ingram said.

She said you can see it on the popular college and high school social sites such as Facebook and MySpace.

Ingram said the socially conforming nature of the social Web sites makes them a haven for underage people to post images of themselves consuming alcohol.

"You're putting your personal life on a very public forum," Ingram said.

"There are risks involved in that ... If you're gonna break the law and then put it on the Internet, you either think it's no big deal or you're not going to get caught," she added.

Ingram said a person with a teaching degree could have it revoked if he or she were to post online a picture of themselves dressed as a drunken pirate.

"Drinking is portrayed in such a positive light," Ingram said. "Some people are just miserable and drinking makes them feel better for short periods of time. When that goes away, they start drinking again."

So where are the parents while adolescents and young adults are partying at night?

Ingram said many parents are simply in denial or don't want to speak up if their child is binge drinking because they drank underage in college.

"Parents believe it's just what young people in college do," Ingram said.

"Instead of sharing their own experiences, they feel like they can't say anything."

Yet college is not just a haven for drunken debaucheries. Educational intervention programs such as CHOICES are available to students with problems with drugs and alcohol.

Assessment and referral to more intensive services are provided.

Students can be referred by a judicial officer or campus administration.

Joy Helsel, director of Greek life at Cal U, said there are events on campus that work to minimize risks of binge drinking.

Will these programs work?

Ingram said she's unsure if alcohol prevention has done anything.

"I still think the societal norm is extremely strong," she said.

Freshmen (FROM PAGE NINE)

MacBeth also said she is sometimes surprised on what the students do not know. Being an English professor, she is amazed about the fact that some students don't know how to write different parts of a speech, write sentences and many other simple lessons that they should just be reviewing, not re-learning.

"I think that a lot of the time they just aren't paying attention," MacBeth said. "And the teacher overlooks it and, therefore, the student doesn't truly understand the lesson."

According to Moeller, the students now have to prioritize their time by themselves, and not have a parent and/or guardian watching over them, telling them what to do.

Their academic goals depend on their ability to take care of themselves.

Samantha Tooth, 18, of Pittsburgh, said that at first she had a hard time organizing her priority list.

"I was so excited to be on my own that I felt like it was a vacation," Tooth said. "I partied a lot the first few weeks of school, and then my grades suffered from it."

Tooth said that when she realized that she had her important priorities last on her list, she started to turn things around.

Around mid-terms, her schedule involved school, studying and partying.

Anderson also agreed that her grades are not as good as she thought they would be.

"I feel overwhelmed because I feel like no matter how hard I study, I am still going to do badly on the test," Anderson said. "The classes are harder than I had expected."

The social aspect that you experience in college can also be a source of stress for freshmen.

According to Moeller, when freshmen are having a hard time making friends, it can be difficult for them. On the other hand, having too many friends makes it harder to prioritize your time for your school work.

Also, when dealing with relationship problems, students sometimes feel as is they can't handle the breakup.

Moeller said that the partner becomes the most important person in the student's life.

Sometimes that's because they do not have a close family relationship or a support system in their new surroundings.

"These are the students that have a harder time dealing with break-ups," Moeller said.

Some students are commuters and do not even live on or near campus.

Moeller and MacBeth both agree that can be both an advantage and a disadvantage.

It may be easier for commuters to get their work done because they may still be living with a parent or guardian, who is still watching over them and their school work.

However, they then miss out on the experience of meeting new people.

"A lot of commuters say that they have a hard time meeting people when they aren't always here on campus," Moeller said.

Steven Rockisfer, 18, of Pittsburgh, agrees with this point. He said his older brother was a commuter to the University of Pittsburgh and always regretted it.

"My brother told me to live on campus," Rockisfer said. "You'll never have that experience again."

Rockisfer, a freshman with an undecided major, said that his experience this semester, socially, has been great. He still keeps in touch with his high school friends, but there is something about your college friends that is different.

"These will probably be the people I talk to for the rest of my life," Rockisfer said.

Rockisfer said that his friends have helped him this semester. They all put their school first, then make time for partying and going out. Since they all feel the same way, it's easier to hang out with one another, there's less pressure.

According to Moeller, students often have financial stresses as well. The prices of books for classes, money for food, spending money and tuition can put pressure on students.

"Sometimes studenst don't feel like they can call home for money from their parents," Moeller said.

When a student becomes stressed out, whether it is academically, socially, emotionally, financially, or for any other reason, the campus counseling center tries to help them the best they can.

"We don't want to see the student drop out," Moeller said. "But, sometimes, going back home, taking a break, is the best thing for them."

According to Moeller, each student is offered six free counseling sessions through the school.

Moeller said that leaving high school and entering college is a huge life-altering experience that takes a toll on each student differently.

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NEWS

Rendell extends filing deadline for April 22 primary

Weather-related traffic delays prompted the governor to issue an executive order.

By PETER JACKSON
Associated Press Writer

HARRISBURG — Gov. Ed Rendell extended Tuesday's deadline for political candidates to qualify for Pennsylvania's April 22 primary, citing concerns about bad weather, but the major statewide candidates had already filed their paperwork.

Sens. Hillary Rodham Clinton, of New York, and Barack Obama, of Illinois, filed petitions to compete for the Democratic presidential nomination.

Sen. John McCain, of Arizona; former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, and Texas Rep. Ron Paul filed for the Republican presidential primary.

Among candidates for the three state row offices, the only intra-party competition appeared to be a four-way contest for the Democratic nomination for the state treasurer's seat that will be open next year.

Rendell extended the filing deadline, which applies to candidates for Congress and the state Legislature as well as party offices, from 5 p.m. Tuesday until noon Thursday, citing traffic problems caused by snow and ice across the state.

Rendell's executive order did not extend the deadline for candidates to collect petition signatures but did give them extra time to deliver their completed petitions to Harrisburg.

"I moved the date until Thursday because the weather forecast (for today) could also cause problems," Rendell said in a statement.

Millions of dollars have been raised already in the Democratic race for treasurer, according to campaign finance reports through Dec. 31.

Montgomery County businessman Rob McCord reported having more than $3 million on hand and more than $1 million in unpaid debts.

Bucks County lawyer John Cordisco, a former state legislator, had $598,000 on hand and $385,000 in debt.

State Rep. Jennifer Mann, of Lehigh County, who announced her candidacy last week, had less than $1,000 in her legislative campaign fund.

Dennis Morrison-Wesley, of Harrisburg, who describes himself as an investment adviser who is currently working as a cable television salesman, also filed a petition.

The only Republican to file for the treasurer's post was Tom Ellis, a Montgomery County bond lawyer.

Filing for attorney general were incumbent Republican Tom Corbett, who had $759,000 on hand at the end of 2007, and Democrat John Morganelli, the Northampton County district attorney, who had $417,000.

Vying for nominations for auditor general are incumbent Democrat Jack Wagner, who carried over $417,000 from 2007, and Republican Chet Beiler, a Lancaster County businessman who reported raising $29,000.

Obama, McCain win big

Illinois senator surges to the lead in the race for delegates.

By JERRY ESTILL
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Barack Obama, already claiming a "new American majority," is focusing more and more on the likely Republican candidate in the November presidential election as he continues to rack up big victories over Hillary Rodham Clinton in their race for the Democratic nomination.

Obama surged to the fore in the delegate race for the party prize with resounding primary victories Tuesday in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

On the GOP side, John McCain took another step in shoring up his credentials as the runaway Republican front-runner despite lukewarm support from the party's conservative base.

Clinton, considered the overwhelming Democratic favorite just a few weeks, was left to turn her attention to Texas and Ohio in an attempt to pump new life into her suddenly stumbling campaign.

"There's a great saying in Texas, all hat and no cattle," she told a boisterous crowd of about 12,000 at a college basketball arena in El Paso Tuesday evening as the shape of the latest Obama ballot victories were unfolding.

"Well, after seven years of George Bush, we need a lot less hat and lot more cattle."

Before flying into Texas, she told a Cincinnati television station that "Ohio is really going to count in determining who our Democratic nominee is going to be."

She also declared herself the "underdog candidate" in the Wisconsin primary next Tuesday, the same day that Hawaii, Obama's birthplace, holds its primary.

In was at the University of Wisconsin where Obama characterized his surging campaign to a crowd of 17,000.

"This is what change looks like when it happens from the bottom up," he said. "This is the new American majority."

Looking ahead to November, he said that although he honors McCain's experience as a war hero, he is linked to failed policies put in place by President Bush.

"George Bush won't be on the ballot this November, but the Bush-Cheney war and the Bush-Cheney tax cuts for the wealthy will be on the ballot," he said.

McCain told supporters in Virginia it is clear where either Obama or Clinton would take the country "and we dare not let them. They will paint a picture of the world in which America's mistakes are a greater threat to our security than the malevolent intentions of an enemy that despises us and our ideals."

The Associated Press count of delegates showed Obama with 1,223. Clinton had 1,198, falling behind for the first time since the campaign began. Neither was close to the 2,025 needed to win the nomination.

His victories Tuesday were by overwhelming margins — 75 percent of the vote in the nation's capital, nearly two-thirds in Virginia and approximately 60 percent in Maryland.

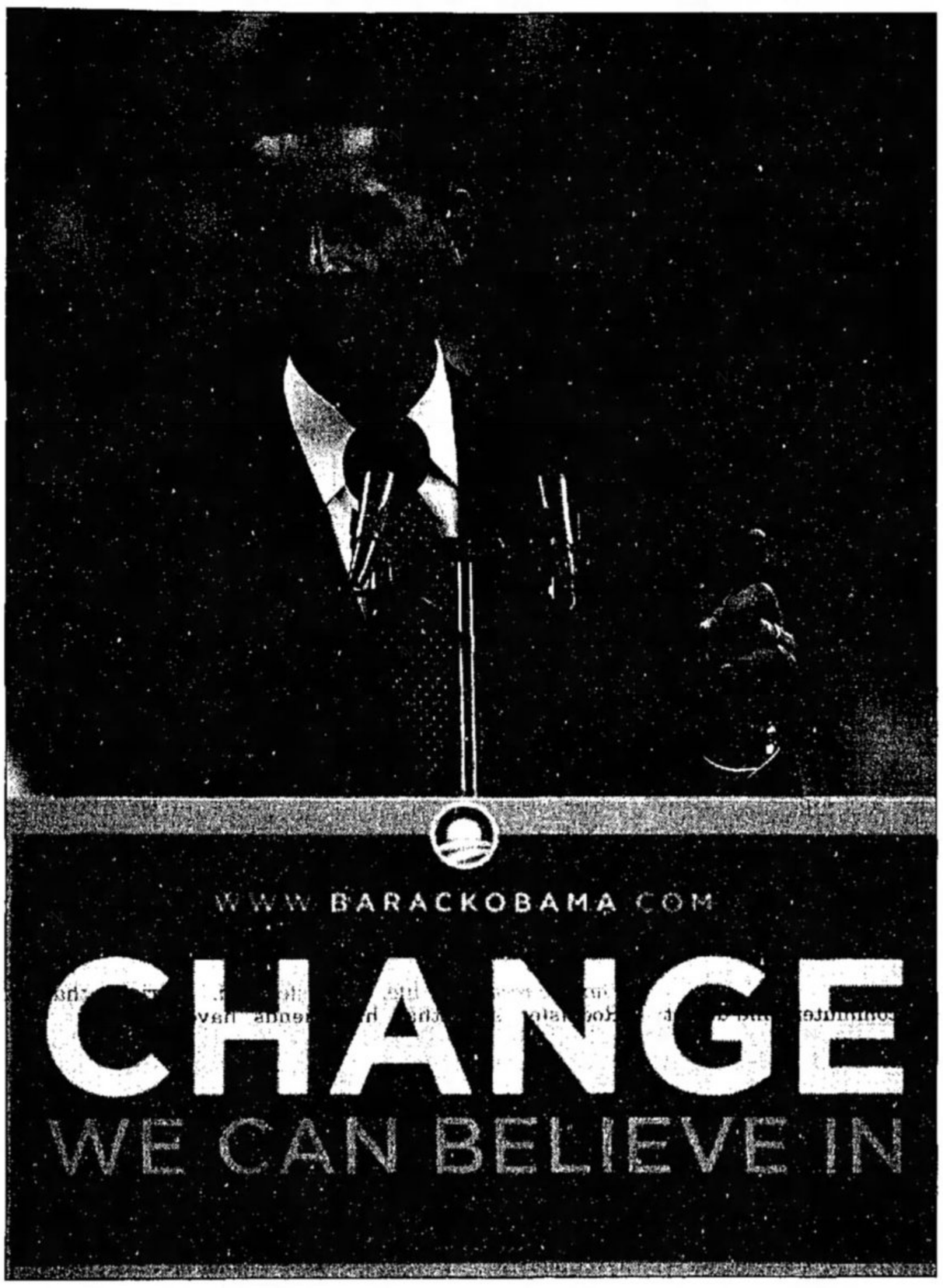
Obama moved past Clinton in the delegate chase on the basis of the Tuesday's primaries and newly released results from last Saturday's Washington caucuses.

Additional delegates still to be allocated from his new victories were certain to add to his lead.

McCain's victory in Virginia was a relatively close one, the result of an outpouring of religious conservatives who backed Mike Huckabee.

The AP count showed McCain with 821 delegates. Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, who dropped out of the race last week, had 288.

Huckabee had 241 and Texas Rep. Ron Paul had 14.



Associated Press

Sen. Barack Obama surged to the fore in the delegate race for the Democratic presidential nomination with resounding primary victories Tuesday in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia.

Rendell: Some whites 'not ready' for Obama

Governor's spokesman said comments were "just being realistic."

By The Associated Press

HARRISBURG — Gov. Ed Rendell, one of Hillary Rodham Clinton's most visible supporters, said some white Pennsylvanians are likely to vote against her rival Barack Obama because he is black.

"You've got conservative whites here, and I think there are some whites who are probably not ready to vote for an African-American candidate," Rendell told the editorial board of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* in remarks that appeared in Tuesday's paper.

To buttress his point, Rendell cited his 2006 re-election campaign, in which he defeated Republican challenger Lynn Swann, the former Pittsburgh Steelers star, by a margin of more than 60 percent to less than 40 percent.

"I believe, looking at the returns in my election, that had Lynn Swann been the identical candidate that he was — well-spoken, charismatic, good-looking — but white instead of black, instead of winning by 22 points, I would have won by 17 or so," he said. "And that (attitude) exists. But on the other hand, that is counterbalanced by Obama's ability to bring new voters into the electoral pool."

Rendell, chairman of the Democratic National Committee in 2000 and previously Philadelphia's mayor, endorsed Clinton on Jan. 23.

Pennsylvania holds its primary April 22.

Several figures in Clinton's campaign, including her husband, the former president, have been criticized in recent weeks for raising Obama's race. In response, Bill Clinton has said he will stick to promoting his wife, rather than defending her.

Rendell's spokesman said the governor did not mean to offend anyone.

"He was simply making an observation about the unfortunate nature of some parts of American society," said spokesman Chuck Ardo. "He wasn't being critical, he wasn't making accusations, but just being realistic."

Hoping to be able to play off Obama's performance in Tuesday's so-called Potomac Primary, a group of Pennsylvania officials today were expected to announce their support for the Illinois senator in the presidential race.

Former acting Gov. Mark Singel, a Democrat, said several state lawmakers are expected to express support for Obama at a Capitol news conference.

The purpose was expected to discuss Obama's performance in the Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C., primaries, Singel said.

Singel hopes to show there is support among public officials for Obama, despite endorsements for Hillary Clinton by Rendell and Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter.

Durants (FROM PAGE THREE)

Four years later, Durant, who had custody of his two children, was coaching soccer when he first saw Lisa. Her son and his son were on the same team.

He met Lisa at one of the games and wrote in his book: "She was a beautiful young woman with sandy hair, sparkling green eyes, a warm laugh and a demeanor that hinted at nothing she had been through."

At some point she told him about the note she found among her late husband's belongings.

They were married the following spring.

Their "blended" family includes Michael's two children, Lisa's three, and three years ago added young Michael.

Lisa taught ROTC at Middle Tennessee State College for almost three years and has the rank of major in the Inactive Reserves.

Michael Durant has written a second book, "The Night Stalkers." Both are available at Monessen Public Library.

Failed shopping malls typically die with a whimper

Rumors abound about the fate of Century III Mall in West Mifflin.

By RON DaPARMA
For The Valley Independent
rdaparma@tribweb.com

Dying shopping malls don't usually close suddenly, but they do gradually fade away, experts say.

As rumors persist about a possible sale or shutdown of the 1.3 million square foot Century III Mall in West Mifflin, there are examples in the region of shopping centers that were shuttered and demolished.

They have been victims of competition and changing demographics, to financial troubles experienced by anchor stores or mall owners.

Among them are the Greengate Mall in Hempfield, the Eastland Mall in North Versailles, the Richland Mall in Johnstown.

"Where anchor stores go, smaller stores generally follow," said Peter Sukernek, general manager of Hanna Commercial, an arm of Howard Hanna Real Estate Services. "But if the main stores close, then all the smaller stores would want out, too."

Loss of a major store or two in a mall can kill business in a mall, said Len Stahlberg, a charter tenant when Greengate Mall opened in 1965 on Route 30 west of Greensburg.

After trying to hang on as customer traffic deteriorated, in 1999 Stahlberg finally decided he could no longer keep his Kickers for Kids shoe store in operation after 34 years in operation.

The telling blow was the decision by J.C. Penney Co. to shutter its store and open new outlet at the larger Westmoreland Mall on Route 30 east of Greensburg, although a later closing of a Montgomery Ward store because of that company's bankruptcy hurt, he said.

"When Penney's closed, other stores there just started dropping like flies," Stahlberg said.

Happily, the former Greengate site is home to Greengate Centre, a bustling mix of big box stores and restaurants anchored by a Wal-Mart SuperCenter.

In North Versailles, the site of the Eastland Mall is mostly a yawning stretch of vacant concrete marked by cracks and potholes.

The enclosed mall was built in 1962 and in a 2004 edition of "Directory of Major Malls" was listed as 750,000 square feet, but it never recovered after it lost J.C. Penney and Gimbels stores in the mid-1980s. Competition from Monroeville Mall was a factor.

In 2005, Benderson Development Co., a Buffalo, N.Y., company that purchased it in 1988, told a few remaining tenants to vacate because it was closing.

Competition led to the downfall of the Richland Mall in Johnstown, said Stephen Zamias, CEO of Zamias Services Inc., a major mall developer based there.

Richland Mall opened in 1974 with Sears, Kmart and PennTraffic stores as anchors.

But in 1992, Zamias opened its Johnstown Galleria, a two-level enclosed mall with more than 800,000 square feet of space, about two miles away.

Anchor store Sears and others left the Richland complex to open at the newer mall, but it wasn't until 1998 that the majority of the complex was closed.

Today the property is the site of the Richland Towne Center, a shopping plaza anchored by a Wal-Mart SuperCenter.

Century III, owned by giant mall developer Simon Property Group, has lost tenants, including an anchor Lazarus store that Federated Department Stores closed in 1999 because of declining sales.

Other major losses have included T.J. Maxx and Wickes Furniture. But those sites today are in use by a Macy's Furniture Gallery (former Lazarus); Dick's Sporting Goods (Wickes) and Steve & Barry's University Sportswear (T.J. Maxx.)

"To loosely quote Mark Twain, 'rumors of our death are greatly exaggerated,' " said a statement by Christine Jamison, marketing manager at Century III

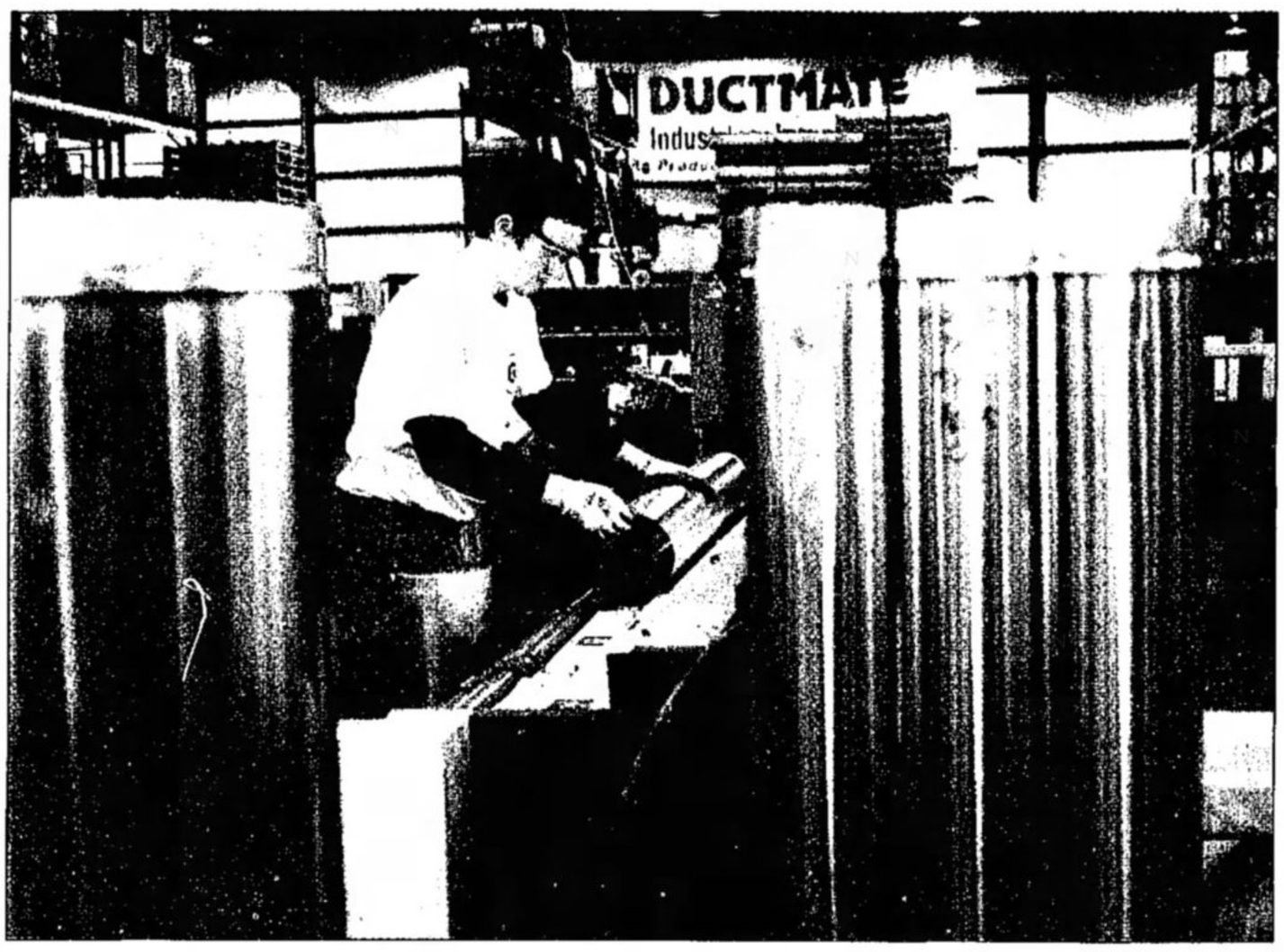
"It has been reported periodically over the past few years that Century III Mall may be sold. While we do not directly comment on such speculation, what we can tell you is that it is very much business as usual at Century III Mall," she said.

Despite the company's assurances, shoppers have complained about increasing vacancies.

Ductmate goes green with gasket

The company has received a grant to advance energy saving technology.

By CHRIS BUCKLEY
Staff Writer
cbuckley@tribweb.com



Journeyman operator Chris King, left, works with sheet metal at Ductmate Industries. Above, GreenSeam technology is heralded on pipe at the Charleroi-based company and on the side of a truck.

Jim Ference/The Valley Independent

The ductwork for heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems has significant leakage – as much as 10 to 25 percent in commercial building systems and 15 to 25 percent in homes.

The leakage has an obvious affect on the amount of energy used to heat and cool buildings.

Now a local company, Ductmate Industries, is developing and producing a virtually leak-free product as part of an energy efficiency initiative.

The company, with offices in Charleroi and production facilities in Forward Township, has received a $100,000 Green Building Alliance grant to advance technology for a rubberized gasket that allows the product to snap-lock.

Ductmate manufactures commercial ductwork connections and ductwork accessories. The company holds numerous patents for its work to reduce duct leakage and improve duct system performance.

Ductmate developed a gasket that is placed along the length of seam in two- or five-foot lengths of 6-inch pipe. This product typically is used for low-pressure applications in light industry and residential use.

Duct tape historically is used to seal ducts, said Mark Smith, business development manager. But after a few years of use, duct tape usually falls off. Now a sealant is used to secure ducts.

Ductmate President Ray Yeager said up until now, most people do not seal ductwork.

Smith said several states require duct work to be sealed.

Government buildings must have sealed duct work. Commercial ducts must by law be sealed.

The first phase of rubberized gasket development began in 2005 and the product line was introduced in the third quarter of 2006.

The gasket eliminates 95 percent of leakage. It also eliminates the need for sealants.

Green energy design is being advocated because of the rising cost of energy. A green building reduces the amount of materials needed. Every material needed requires energy to produce. By eliminating the use of sealants, it reduces the amount of energy and materials that go into producing sealants.

It also improves energy efficiency. The average homeowner saves $150 a year by sealing their ductwork.

All of the gasket manufacturing takes place at the Forward Township facility. The company also has a production facility in Lodi, Calif.

Ductmate products are sold worldwide.

The company produces 30,000 pieces a year with the gasket, which are sold from Maine to Missouri.

The grant covers the project's second phase, an effort to expand the technology into other product lines. Seventy percent of the research and development is completed.

Yeager said Phase II should be complete by the third quarter of 2008. After that, Ductmate officials will decide how to mass produce gaskets for new products.

The company employs nearly 300 people.

TRIB TOTAL MEDIA'S

Family, Inc.

by Jennifer Antkowiak

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Q: I see you're focusing on heart topics this month. When I hear or read about heart disease and the warning signs and symptoms, it always leaves me wondering if I could be having problems. The symptoms seem so vague (especially for us women); how do I know if it's serious enough to call a doctor?

A: I think a lot of people have the same kind of feelings. We don't want to be hypochondriacs, we don't want to waste our own time or a doctor's with something that turns out to be nothing.

All of the experts that I've been interviewing at Allegheny General Hospital's McGinnis Cardiovascular Institute---these people are the tops in their field--- tell me that we must stop thinking that way. We have to be our own aggressive advocates when it comes to our care.

Before I get into the specifics on symptoms, I want to say flat out if you have a nagging feeling that something could be wrong, go and see a doctor and have it checked. Trust your gut. And, if you don't feel that your doctor is taking your concerns seriously enough, don't stop. Press your doctor for tests, or go and see another doctor.

Dr. Rina Gandhi, a cardiologist at the Cardiovascular Institute agrees with me. She says some women have expressed concerns that they may not be taken seriously; and this is due in part to the fact that there's a false sense of comfort among people in and outside of the medical community that women don't get heart disease.

Wrong! Heart disease is the #1 killer of women. For every one woman diagnosed with breast cancer, six are diagnosed with some form of heart disease. Heart disease kills more women age 65 and over than all cancers combined.

There are two things I want you to remember about this though...two pieces of good news: ***#1*** There are many things we can all do on our own to reduce our risk of heart disease (as I discussed in last week's article); and ***#2*** There are many things that doctors can do to help with treatment of heart disease.

I got to see many of those options first hand at the McGinnis Cardiovascular Institute when I was there gathering material for a prime time, one-hour heart special that will air on WTAE-TV on Saturday, February 23rd at 7:00 p.m. I hope you can watch.

Dr. Gandhi tells me, "as a cardiologist, there's a lot that I can do to improve life. I almost never have to tell a patient there's nothing I can do. I have so many options of treatment to offer."

Again though, none of that can start unless there is a diagnosis. The general, common symptoms of heart disease are:

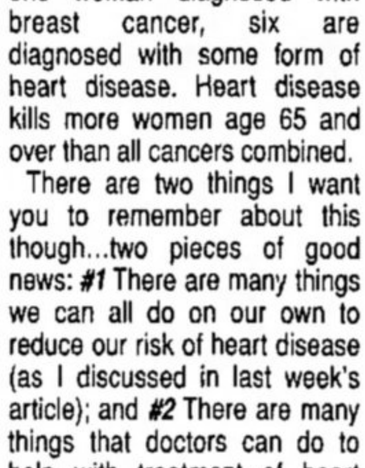
Chest pain, pressure, or burning – that comes on or increases with activity, and does not go away with over the counter medication and/or rest.

Pain that radiates down your left arm

Shortness of breath that happens unexpectedly. For my mother in-law (who ended up having a quintuple by-pass) it was noticing that she was all of a sudden out of breath when doing normal things...vacuuming, and making the bed for example. Sweating that occurs without physical activity.

Symptoms of heart disease that seem to show up in women are more subtle, and would seem un-related to crushing chest pain that you would typically relate to a heart problem:

- ***Shortness of breath***
- ***Nausea***
- ***Neck, shoulder, upper back, or jaw pain***
- ***Pain that radiates down both arms***
- ***Sweating***
- ***Unexplained, persistent fatigue***



Don't think that heart disease and the statistics I've given you are "all about somebody else." Point the finger at yourself. Don't let a lack of acceptance, a busy schedule, or fear stop you from going to a doctor and having your worries evaluated. And be on the lookout for signs and symptoms of heart disease in those you care about. Speak up if you have any concerns. My mother-in-law wasn't thinking about going to the doctor for what she was experiencing. I was the one to tell her to go. Push yourself, or someone you love to get the care they need.

J.

Tell me how you're going to take care of your heart and send me your questions for Family, Inc. at jenniferTVshow.com

It's All About A Woman's Heart

Join Us For An Open House

Allegheny General Hospital invites you to tour the Women's Heart Center in McCandless – a distinctive center that caters specifically to women and their unique cardiovascular needs. Our team of cardiologists – each of whom is a woman – will be glad to answer your questions. You'll also have an opportunity to meet local television personality Jennifer Antkowiak and learn how heart disease has impacted women in her family.

The Women's Heart Center is located in the **AGH McCandless Building, 9335 McKnight Road, nine miles north of Pittsburgh.**

Saturday, March 1, 2008
Refreshments will be served and guided tours of the facility will be available from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Pre-registration is required and space is limited.
To reserve your tour time, please call 1-877-284-2000.

The Women's Heart Center
www.pittsburghheartcare.com

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Watch jennifer, Sunday's at 11 AM on WTAE-TV • jenniferTVshow.com • Email questions to: jennifer@jenniferTVshow.com

Mortgage safety net questioned

One Allegheny official said a similar system is already in place.

BY CHRIS TOGNERI
For The Valley Independent
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The Bush administration announced a program Tuesday aimed at helping homeowners stave off foreclosure, but critics say the plan will not solve the worsening housing crisis.

The initiative – dubbed "Project Lifeline" – would stall foreclosure proceedings for some delinquent borrowers while they negotiate more favorable terms with lenders.

Under the plan, six major financial institutions will send letters to homeowners who fall 90 days or more behind on their mortgage payments. A homeowner will have 10 days to call a phone number on the letter, triggering a 30-day pause on foreclosure proceedings while they seek a more manageable deal.

The plan will have little impact locally, Allegheny County Sheriff Bill Mullen said.

Mullen said sheriff's officials advise homeowners to ask a judge for a 30-day delay if their home is in danger of being auctioned in a sheriff's sale. The delay is almost always granted, he said, giving homeowners the time to renegotiate their loans, even homeowners are five or six months late on payments.

Maryellen Hayden, lead organizer for the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, which advises homeowners in danger of losing their houses in western Pennsylvania, said she is worried struggling homeowners who get 30-day delays will renegotiate equally unfavorable deals.

"It is not advisable for them to negotiate with their lender – that's what got them in trouble in the first place," Hayden said. "To me, that seems like a problem."

Few spring training decisions

The Pirates are already set at most positions as they head to Bradenton. **2B**

Valley SPORTS

Craft of the Week

Few things can bring about a feeling of tranquility like a quilt, especially this "quiet afternoon" version. **6B**

HGH use admitted?

Andy Pettitte, a long-time friend and teammate of Roger Clemens, said the embattled pitcher talked about using HGH 10 years ago. **2B**

Sports Trivia

Which boy holds the Belle Vernon Area record with 45 points in a basketball playoff game? **2B**

Last night's scores

Carolina 3, Boston 2
Tampa Bay 3, Montreal 2
N.Y. Islanders 4, Philadelphia 3
Buffalo 5, Ottawa 1
Nashville 4, Detroit 2
St. Louis 4, Los Angeles 2

Brian **HERMAN**

Panepinto to play against U.S. team

How does former Belle Vernon Area softball star Brooke Panepinto, now a Robert Morris University junior, compare to some of the country's premier players?

The question should be answered when the Colonials take on the United States National Team May 1 at the Washington Wild Things' Consol Energy Park.

Pittsburgh is one of four stops the U.S. team, which has won three straight Olym-pic gold medals and nine successive world championships, is making on its "Bound 4 Beijing" tour. The others are No. 1 Arizona, No. 10 UCLA and No. 1 Tennessee.

Mike Candrea, Arizona's coach, is guiding the country's best as they prepare for the 2008 Olympics.

An outfielder, Panepinto made the All-NEC first team last year after leading the team in hitting with a .398 batting average, .675 slugging percentage and a .441 on base percentage.

Panepinto is in the school's single season record book with 13 doubles (tied for first), a .398 batting average, (sixth), seven home runs (sixth) and 33 RBI (seventh).

The Colonials open the season a week from Friday in the Hokies Memorial Tournament at Virginia Tech. Next month Robert Morris will return to Florida for the Orlando Rebel Games after a year's absence and then go to the Buckeye Invitational at Columbus and face host Ohio State.

■ California University will open its 15th season under Rick Bertagnolli March 5 in South Carolina at the Francis Marion Tourney. The Vulcans' first two games are against No. 23 Georgia College and 2005 NCAA Division II champion Lynn University.

Georgia College is 2-2 and has 16 games scheduled in Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama and North Carolina before starting Cal's season.

Out of Boca Raton, Fla., Lynn is off to a bad 2-10 start and has 12 more games scheduled before acing the Vulcans.

Bertagnolli is the school's winningest coach with a 504-145 record, but is coming off his first losing season at 15-17.

Cal is fourth in the PSAC West preseason poll behind Lock Haven, Edinboro and Indiana. Slippery Rock and Clarion are behind the Vulcans. Lock Haven is ranked second in the national poll behind SIU Edwardsville with East favorite Bloomsburg 12th.

Speaking of preseason rankings, California's baseballers are picked to win a fifth straight PSAC West title ahead of Slippery Rock, Shippensburg, Indiana, Lock Haven and Clarion.

The Vulcans are coming off a school-record 36 wins and their first NCAA tourney appearance since 1983.

Weather permitting, Cal will open its season a week from Friday at Ohio Valley College, with its home opener March 1 against Mansfield.

Cal baseball coach Mike Conte has won 300 games in 11 seasons with a string of 30 or more victories the past four years.

■ And thanks to Galvie Gardner, of California, who says a word to the wise isn't as good as a word from the wise!

BVA faces playoff 'sleeper'

Keystone Oaks defeated the Leps by seven points last month.

By BRIAN HERMAN
Sports Editor
bherman@tribweb.com

McKEESPORT — Belle Vernon Area's record in games the Leps have scored 75 or more points is 5-1.

The loss was in Dormont against Keystone Oaks, 82-75, in a non-section game Jan. 2.

There will be a lot more on the line when the Leps (19-5) and Golden Eagles (14-10) meet for the second time in the first round of the Class AAA playoffs at 8 p.m. today.

The game will be played in McKeesport at the Penn State-Greater Allegheny Campus.

BVA coach John Dudzinski doesn't think the WPIAL basketball committee did any favors by having his Section 5 champions draw the Section 4 runnerup.

"They're the second best team we played to Uniontown," said Dudzinski. "Everyone has been saying that Keystone Oaks was the sleeper They may have 10 losses but they've played a tough schedule.'

All the Golden Eagles' defeats have come to playoff teams, including a heartbreaking 62-59 defeat at Chartiers Valley, the Class AAA's once-beaten top seed on a three-pointer at the buzzer with the Section 4 title on the line.

Chartiers Valley is Class AAA's top seed.

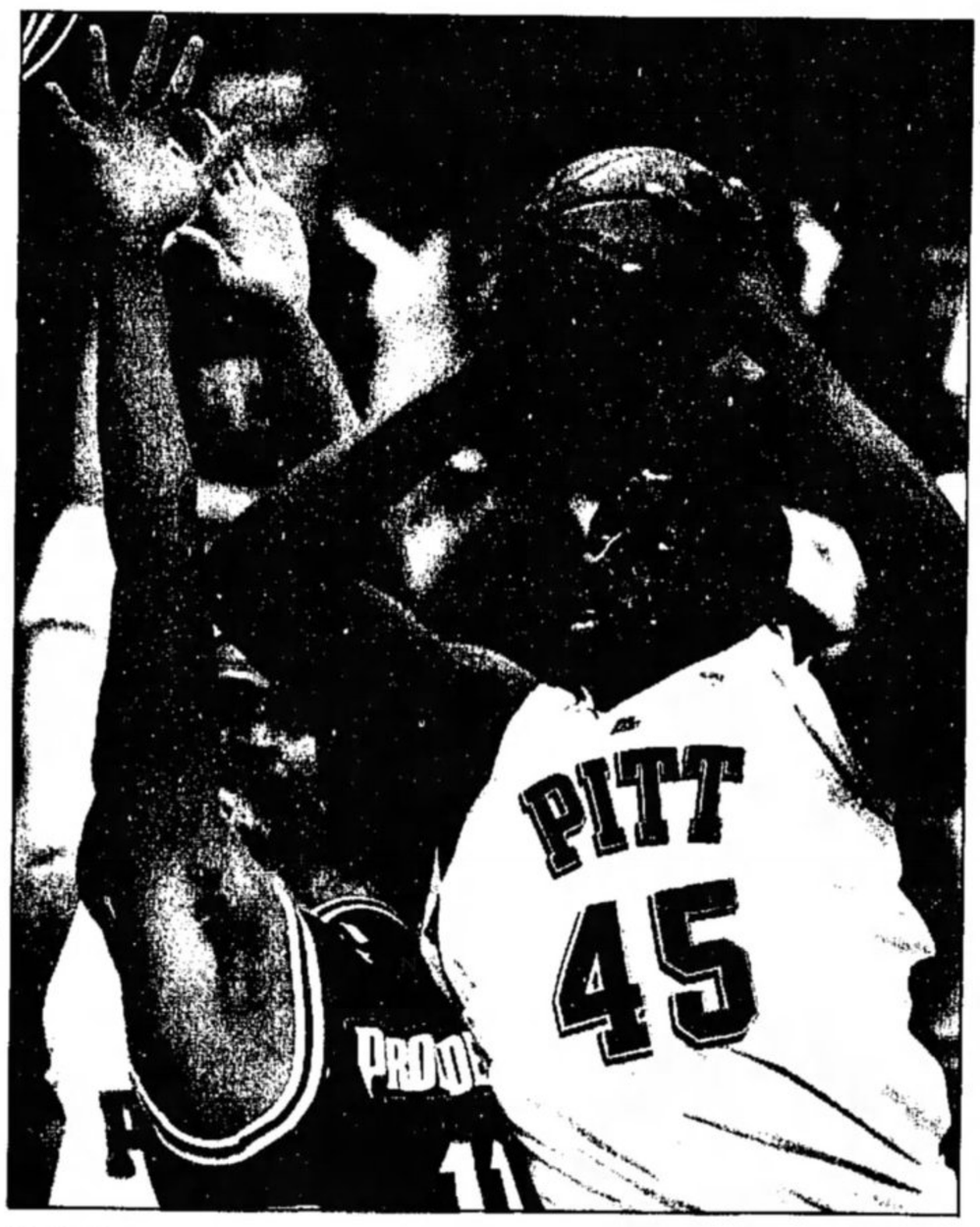
Keystone Oaks and BVA are two of the WPIAL higher scoring teams averaging 69 and 66 points, respectively.

The Golden Eagles have scored 80 or more eight times.

Dudzinski doesn't look for the

(See BVA, Page 3B)

WPIAL Class AAA Section 5 champion Belle Vernon Area will make its playoff debut tonight with a first-round game against Keystone Oaks. Team members include, seated from left, Cody Williams, Evan Russell, Cory Williams, Matt Green, Bo Lustig, Ethan Cieply and Tyber Lustig; kneeling from left, manager Jessie Boyd, Raymond Johnson, Josh Pohlot, Jared Pawlak, Andrew Spate, Vinnie Costanza and manager Matt Gray; and standing from left, coach John Dudzinski, Jacob Dudzinski, John Naylor, Chad Rodriguez, Tyler Shutterly, assistant coach Jay Lustig and assistant coach Ed Miller.



Pitt's DeJuan Blair, right, shoots over Providence's Geoff McDermott during Tuesday's Big East game. Blair had 15 points and seven rebounds as the Panthers won, 82-63.

Associated Press

Pitt overpowers Providence

Young, Ramon and Blair too much for Friars in Big East contest.

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Sam Young scored 22 points and No. 22 Pittsburgh limited Providence to six points in the opening 11 minutes of the second half, allowing the Panthers to pull away for an 82-63 victory Tuesday night.

Ronald Ramon, coming off a game-winning 3-pointer at the buzzer against West Virginia, hit five 3-pointers while scoring 15 points and physical freshman DeJuan Blair proved a difficult matchup inside for Providence with 15 points and seven rebounds.

Pitt (19-5, 7-4 Big East) alternated wins and losses over its previous seven games before putting away the slumping Friars (13-11, 4-8), who lost their sixth in seven games and are winless in their last eight against the Panthers. The Friars haven't beaten Pitt since January 2001 and haven't won in Pittsburgh since December 1998.

Providence, 1-7 on the road, stayed close for a half, leading 28-27 late in the first half after Jeff Xavier hit three 3-pointers in the opening four minutes. The Friars trailed by only three, 42-39, in the opening minute of the first half.

But the Friars, despite getting 15 points from Marshon Brooks and 14 from Xavier, suddenly lost their offense as Pitt went on runs of 8-0 and 13-0 over the next nine-plus minutes to seize a 63-41 lead.

Blair's basket finished off the 8-0 run that gave Pitt its first double-figure lead at 50-39. Ramon hit a 3-pointer and Benjamin scored consecutive hoops on drives to the basket as Pitt took a 63-41 lead by scoring 21 of the first 25 points of the half.

Keith Benjamin added 10 points for Pitt, which took advantage of frequent Friars defensive lapses for its highest-scoring game since beating Seton Hall 84-70 on Jan. 12. Pitt was held to 69 points or fewer in six of its first 10 conference games. Providence has allowed an average of 75 points over its last seven games.

Young was limited to six shots while being held to 10 points in the 55-54 win Thursday against West Virginia, or eight points below his average, but was clearly looking to shoot more and missed only four of 14 shots. Young scored 22 or more points in four of six Pitt games from Jan. 9-23, but had averaged only 12.5 points over his previous four.

Providence, in danger of missing the Big East tournament for the second time in three seasons if it can't start winning on the road, also got 10 points from Randall Hanke.

Pitt point guard Levance Fields, out since Dec. 30 with a broken foot, resumed practicing this week but did not dress for the game. Previously, he targeted Friday's game at Marquette as the likely date for his return.

Natural turf best for Parker

Some of the Steelers' running back's top games have come on grass fields.

By JOE STARKEY
For The Valley Independent

Willie Parker

Let's start by debunking The Willie Parker Theory.

You know how it goes: Parker's really fast, he'd obviously thrive on artificial turf, so the Steelers are stupid for insisting on a mostly natural grass field.

Parker even has expressed a liking for artificial turf, so this is nothing less than a mindless act of sabotage against their star runner, right?

Not exactly.

See, Parker does his best work at Heinz Field.

In 23 regular-season home games since he became the starter, he has averaged 4.59 yards per carry (509 carries, 2,337 yards). In 21 regular-season road games — not including two he left early — he has averaged 4.25 yards (394 carries, 1,675 yards).

Parker has recorded 12 of his 20 100-yard games at home, plus his only two 200-yard games (one of those in the month of November, when Heinz Field supposedly melds into a combination of quicksand and the Amazon Wetlands; somehow, he managed runs of 76 and 72 yards that day).

Fast Willie runs silly on the grass at Cleveland, too, where he has two 100-yard games in three starts and the longest run of his career (80 yards).

Aside from that memorable 75-yard run in Super Bowl XL, indoor carpeting — which you'd think would be Parker's paradise — hasn't been kind. Parker has 92 carries for 360 yards (3.91 average) in six indoor games.

That does not include his brief appearance at the Edward Jones Dome late last season, when he

(See PARKER, Page 2B)

SPORTS

Positions set as spring training nears

Pirates have relatively few questions to answer before the season starts.

PITTSBURGH (AP) — There's only one lineup position to fill, maybe only one job open in the rotation. Yes, the Pittsburgh Pirates are nearly ready to open the season.

What's curious is they have yet to start spring training. The Pirates are coming off a 94-loss season and 284 losses over their last three seasons, yet the team that opens camp Friday is nearly the same one that ended the season in September.

Jason Bay is still in left field, with Xavier Nady is in right. Jack Wilson and Freddy Sanchez form the middle infield. Adam LaRoche is on one infield corner, Jose Bautista is on the other. Tom Gorzelanny, Ian Snell, Paul Maholm, Matt Morris and Zach Duke figure to get the ball every fifth day, and Matt Capps gets it with a lead in the ninth inning.

No major league team of recent vintage lost so many games yet returned the following season almost intact, yet the Pirates' biggest change is that Jim Tracy is out and John Russell is in as manager.

Now, with the players set to report to camp in Bradenton, Fla., on Thursday, the Pirates have a difficult selling job on their hands as they try to stop their string of 15 straight losing seasons. They must convince their fans and, perhaps, their very players, that they can be a lot better with only a new manager in place.

The major focal points this spring will be deciding who starts in center field, Nyjer Morgan or Nate McLouth, and who joins Capps and left-handers John Grabow and Damaso Marte in the bullpen.

"I think they have more faith in the team we have now," said Snell, a 14-game winner last season. "Sometimes you wish that they do make changes, but maybe they see something we don't. I think the fans probably feel the same way, they're upset, too. But we've got a lot of potential here."

New general manager Neal Huntington had little option but to leave the team unchanged. The player who would have brought the most in return in any trade— Bay — was coming off a down season and thus wasn't as prized as he would have been the previous two offseasons.

Trading some of the young starting pitchers, none of whom is close to free agency, would have brought only less accomplished prospects in return.

"I understand Neal's position, you just can't come in and make that happen and be like, bam, infuse millions of dollars and make all the trades you want to make," Bay said. "Those things take time and that's part of the game."

The question is how much time their new leadership, starting from team president Frank Connelly on down, believes is necessary to pull off what has become one of the most challenging turnaround projects in pro sports.

There is little to suggest the Pirates can stage a dramatic turnaround with their current group, yet a massive overhaul and commitment to youth might extend their streak of losing seasons years and years more.

"Everyone used to tell me, 'Man I feel sorry for you, going from a first place team (the Mets) to the last," said Nady, who was traded late in the 2006 season. "You get sick of hearing it. You tell everyone, 'We have a good group,' but will we have more than one year to see if we click as a group? Or will they have a better understanding of what we'll need to have some success on the field?"

Jason Bay

Pettitte: Clemens admitted HGH use

Long-time teammate relates conversation from 10 years ago.

By RONALD BLUM and HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Sports Writers

WASHINGTON — Roger Clemens told Yankees teammate Andy Pettitte nearly 10 years ago that he used human growth hormone, Pettitte said in a sworn affidavit to Congress.

Pettitte disclosed the conversation to the congressional committee holding today's hearing on drug use in baseball, a person familiar with the affidavit told The Associated Press. The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity Tuesday because the document had not been made public.

According to the person familiar with the affidavit, who said it was signed Friday night, Pettitte also said Clemens backtracked when the subject of HGH came up again in conversation in 2005, before the same House committee held the first hearing on steroids in baseball.

Pettitte said in the affidavit that he asked Clemens in 2005 what he would do if asked about performance-enhancing substances, given his admission years earlier. According to the account told to the AP, the affidavit said Clemens responded by saying Pettitte misunderstood the previous exchange in 1999 or 2000 and that, in fact, Clemens had been talking about HGH use by his wife in the original conversation.

"We don't know what Andy said," Clemens' lead lawyer, Rusty Hardin, said in a statement e-mailed to the AP by his spokesman. "We look forward to hearing tomorrow."

The existence of the affidavit first was reported by The New York Times. The details of its contents were first reported by the AP.

The news came on the eve of Clemens' much-anticipated appearance to testify before the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. His former personal trainer, Brian McNamee, is today's other main witness. McNamee told baseball investigator George Mitchell that he injected Clemens with steroids and HGH at least 16 times from 1998 to 2001.

Clemens repeatedly has denied those allegations, including, he said, under oath in a deposition last week.

Pettitte also sat for a deposition at the beginning of last week, and had been scheduled to testify at the hearing. But he asked the committee to allow him to give an affidavit instead of appearing at the hearing, the person familiar with the document said. Pettitte was dropped from the witness list Monday.

McNamee also accused Pettitte of using HGH, and after the Mitchell Report's release in December, Pettitte acknowledged that he did.

On Tuesday, Clemens made the rounds on Capitol Hill one last time, wearing a gray pinstriped suit and squeezing face-to-face meetings into the busy schedules of committee members. He met with five lawmakers over a four-hour span Tuesday, on top of the 19 he saw Thursday and Friday.

Pettitte

"I enjoyed talking with him," said Rep. Diane Watson, D-Calif., who said the discussion included baseball stories and personal accounts about the Sept. 11 attacks. "It's always good to meet the person who is in the spotlight. ... I told him, 'This is not a trial.'"

But it might very well feel like one when Clemens and McNamee sit at the witness table and — under oath — offer what will surely be contradictory versions as to whether Clemens used steroids and HGH.

"I couldn't tell you who's telling the truth," Watson said.

Winning season in Dukes' reach

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Duquesne Dukes don't list it as a goal on their locker room chalkboard. If they discuss it, they do so only when notepads or cameras aren't around.

Regardless, one of the nation's worst Division I basketball programs since the early 1980s is one victory away from its first winning season in 14 years and only its second in 21 years.

Certainly, it would be a modest accomplishment for most schools. Considering how far Duquesne's program has come in only two seasons, from a 3-24 record in 2005-06 and the on-campus shootings of five players 17 months ago, the feat would be a giant one.

Even if the Dukes (15-7) seemingly aren't paying much attention to it.

"It's one of those things that you might look back on in hindsight, after the season is over, and say, 'That's a good thing,'" coach Ron Everhart said Tuesday. "But our guys right now, the worst thing in world would be to think they're satisfied with a winning season. We're trying to position ourselves in the league (Atlantic 10) race."

That's something few Dukes teams of recent vintage have discussed in mid-February: the conference race. The Dukes are 5-4 in league playing going into tonight's difficult game at Dayton (16-6, 4-5), which owns a 25-point home court win over now-No. 22 Pittsburgh and beat Louisville on the road.

After that, the Dukes are at home Saturday against Richmond (12-10, 5-4), then return to the road to play conference-leading and No. 12 Xavier (20-4, 8-1) on Feb. 21. Four of the Dukes' last seven are on the road.

Winning five of the seven to achieve the school's first 20-win season since 1980-81 might be asking too much.

Parker (FROM PAGE ONE)

snapped a fibula cutting on a fake field that was rated ahead of Heinz Field by the NFL Players Association.

Which brings up a critical point: Does anyone realize it's a good thing that other players hate Heinz Field?

After a loss here in November, a game in which Cleveland kick returner Josh Cribbs appeared to have excellent footing, Browns kicker Phil Dawson was asked about the Steelers' winning ways at home.

"I wouldn't be surprised if the field was part of it," he said.

Most Steelers players favor the natural surface. They believe it preserves their bodies. They also win a lot here. They are 41-14-1 at Heinz Field. That includes a 29-11 mark the past five seasons, compared to 21-19 on the road.

True, they won three road games to get to Super Bowl XL, but the last of those was on grass in Denver.

And by the way, most cold-weather teams with open-air stadiums play on grass — Green Bay, Cleveland, Denver, Kansas City, Chicago, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Washington.

It can be done. Grass can survive the early winter months. The Steelers could do a better job of maintaining it, for sure, but if the late-season conditions are so hideous, how come New England plays so well here in January?

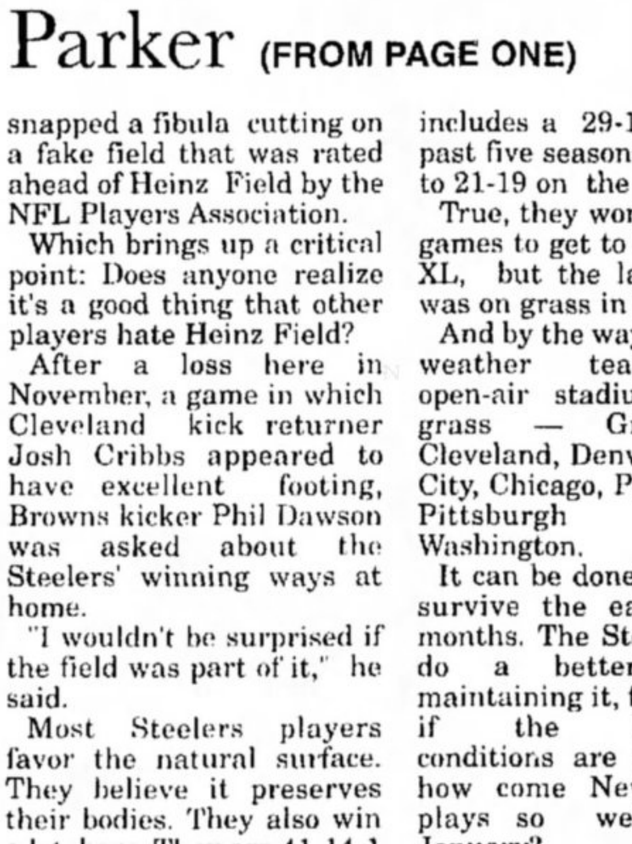
The field was fine for the playoff game against Jacksonville.

Whenever this topic arises on television, we are force-fed footage of the infamous Muddy Night Game against Miami. As if that was representative of the conditions at Heinz Field. Truth is, that mess was caused by the fluke confluence of new sod, five other football games, unsatisfactory tarp and a near-record rainfall.

It'll never happen again.

The Steelers serve the public by allowing high school championship games to be played at Heinz Field. They have asked the NFL not to schedule a home game that weekend. They win here nearly 75 percent of the time.

What else do you want?



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SPORTS DIGEST

California home with Wayne State

Riding a seven-game winning streak, California University's men will be looking for revenge when the Vulcans (15-4) host skidding Wayne State (9-13) at 7 p.m. today in an exhibition game.

The Vulcans were an 85-80 loser in overtime at Wayne State in their second contest of the season.

California couldn't contain Wayne State's 6-4 senior Wynn Sarden, who had 23 points and 11 rebounds both game highs.

The Warriors, who opened the season 4-0, have dropped eight-in-a-row for their losing streak in 27 years.

Sarden leads the Warriors with a 16 point scoring average.

Ron Banks tops the Vulcans with a 14 point average.

The Vulcans' Ali Mbaye was last week's PSAC West Player of the Week after getting double-doubles in wins over Edinboro and Clarion.

Vulcans' Clark honored by PSAC

California University senior Chris Clark was named one of th PSAC Track and Field Athletes of the Week after winning the 5,000 meter run in the Boston University Valentine Invitational with a PSAC record time of 14:00.32.

Clark's time is the third fastest this season in NCAA Division I and II and automatically qualifies him for the NCAA championship.

California's Smith PSAC Rookie of Week

California University freshman Kayla Smith was named the PSAC West Rookie of the Week after scoring 45 points in losses to Edinboro and Clarion.

Fayette County League meeting set

The Fayette County Baseball League will hold a meeting Monday at 7:30 p.m. at Potter's Clubhouse Sports Bar and Grill on Morgantown Street in Uniontown.

Baseball, softball signups scheduled

The Belle Vernon Area Youth Baseball-Softball Association will hold signups Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon at the North Belle Vernon Borough Council meeting room on Speer Street.

Chatham honors Corley, Matush

Chatham University honored Monessen High girls' basketball coach Major Corley and sophomore Lacey Matush at its rent 13th annual National Girls and Women in Sports Day.

Corley received the coach's award with Matush, a softball pitcher, soccer player and cheerleader, getting the Pat Blayden Spirit of Sport Award for 10th grade student-athletes in honor of the woman who dedicated 34 years to the college's athletic department,

Monessen seniors Christina Chukwuedo (basketball and track) and Kelly Mornak (soccer and basketball) were Blayden Spirit of Sport Award nominees.

Monessen ticket sale set Friday

Tickets for the WPIAL Class A girl's basketball quarterfinal round game between Geibel and Monessen, set for 6:30 p.m. Friday at Charleroi, will be sold from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday in the high school cafeteria. If the Monessen boys team advances to the WPIAL Class AA quarterfinals, tickets for that game would be sold at the same time.

This will be the final ticket sale by the school for either game. All other tickets will have to be purchased at the game site, where only adult tickets are sold.

NCAA women's tourney returning to Pitt

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The University of Pittsburgh will host NCAA women's basketball first- and second-round games in 2010, the second time in four seasons the tournament will stop at the Petersen Events Center.

Pitt also played host to tournament games last spring, with two top-seeded teams, eventual national champion Tennessee and North Carolina, playing their first two games there.

Trivia answer

Cam Totedo is an 81-72 overtime loss to Highlands in a first round game at North Hills.

SPORTS

Basketball playoffs

Boys
Class AAAA
Friday
Quarterfinals
At North Allegheny
8 p.m. - McKeesport (18-3) vs Upper St. Clair (20-5)
At Chartiers Valley
8 p.m. - Central Catholic (20-4) v Canon-McMillan (18-7)
At Plum
8 p.m. - North Allegheny (23-2) vs Norwin (19-6)
At North Hills
8 p.m. - Moon (18-6) vs Franklin Regional (19-6)
Class AAA
Today
At Penn State-McKeesport
8 p.m - Belle Vernon Area (19-5) vs Keystone Oaks (14-10)
At Hempfield
8 p.m - Indiana (19-5) vs Steel Valley (16-5)
At North Hills
8 p.m. - Chartiers Valley (22-2) vs Mt. Pleasant (10-13)
At Ambridge
8 p.m. - Hopewell (18-5) vs Hampton (14-10)
Thursday
At Ringgold
8 p.m. - Uniontown (18-4) vs Ambridge (9-15)
At Canon-McMillan
8 p.m. - Blackhawk (19-5) vs Laurel Highlands (13-10)
At North Allegheny
8 p.m. - Highlands (19-4) vs Thomas Jefferson (10-13)
At Gateway
8 p.m. - Greensburg Salem (18-5) vs Montour (14-10)
Class AA
Today
First Round
At Northgate
8 p.m. - North Catholic (21-3) vs Quaker Valley (16-9)
At North Allegheny
8 p.m. - Riverside (23-1) vs Seton LaSalle (13-12)
At Baldwin
8 p.m. - Jeannette (16-4) vs Center (16-7)
At West Allegheny
8 p.m - South Fayette (19-5) vs Shady Side Academy (18-7)
Thursday
At West Allegheny
8 p.m. - Monessen (18-5) vs Ford City (14-11)
At Belle Vernon Area
8 p.m. - Washington (18-6) vs Greensburg Central (17-8)
At North Hills
8 p.m. - Beaver Falls (19-3) vs Springdale (17-6)
At Chartiers Valley
8 p.m. - Aliquippa (16-8) vs Canevin (13-12)
Class A
Thursday
Quarterfinals
At Gateway
5 p.m. - Serra (21-2) vs Trinity Christian (5-16)
Friday
At Charleroi
8 p.m. - California (16-5) vs Bentworth (16-7)
At Ambridge
8 p.m. - Lincoln Place (15-6) vs Union (15-6)
At Steel Valley
8 p.m - St. Joseph (14-10) vs Serra-Trinity Christian winner
At Baldwin
8 p.m. - Wilkinsburg (13-10) vs Monaca (11-13)
Girls
Class AAAA
Friday
Quarterfinals
At Plum
6:30 p.m. - Norwin (24-1) vs Oakland Catholic (15-10)
At North Allegheny
6:30 p.m. - New Castle (19-5) vs Upper St. Clair (19-5)
At Baldwin
6:30 p.m. - Mt. Lebanon (23-2) vs Woodland Hills (18-7)
At Ambridge
Butler (23-2) vs Peters Twp. (18-7)
Class AAA
Today
First Round
At Hempfield
6:30 p.m. - Indiana (21-3) vs Derry (14-10)
At Penn State-McKeesport
6:30 p.m. - West Mifflin (21-3) vs Southmoreland (18-6)
At North Hills
6:30 p.m. - Chartiers Valley (18-6) vs Highlands (15-10)
At Ambridge
6:30 p.m. - Hopewell (9-4) vs Franklin Regional (11-14)
Thursday
At Canon-McMillan
6:30 p.m. - Ringgold (17-7) vs Blackhawk (16-9)
At Gateway
6:30 p.m. - Elizabeth Forward (20-4) vs West Allegheny (13-11)
At North Allegheny
6:30 p.m. - Hampton (22-2) vs Thomas Jefferson (11-13)
At Ringgold
6:30 p.m. - Mt. Pleasant (17-6) vs Ambridge (15-8)
Class AA
Today
First Round
At West Allegheny
6:30 p.m. - Sacred Heart (22-1) vs South Fayette (17-8)
At North Allegheny
6:30 p.m. - Riverside (17-7) vs Wilkinsburg (12-9)
At Fox Chapel
6:30 p.m. - Beaver Falls (15-8) vs Ford City (18-6)
At Baldwin
6:30 p.m. - Greensburg Central (16-7) vs Brownsville (16-8)
Thursday
First Round
At Belle Vernon Area
6:30 p.m. - Washington (22-1) vs Seton-LaSalle (14-11)
At West Allegheny
6:30 p.m. - Neshannock (16-7) vs South Park (17-8)
At Chartiers Valley
6:30 p.m. - Canevin (19-6) vs Sto-Rox (15-7)
At North Hills
6:30 p.m. - Beaver (15-6) vs Shady Side Academy (18-7)
Class A
Friday
Quarterfinals
At Charleroi
6:30 p.m. - Monessen (24-0) vs Geibel (18-6)
At North Hills
6:30 p.m. - North Catholic (21-4) vs Avonworth (13-9)
At Steel Valley
6:30 p.m. - Serra (16-5) vs Mt. Alvernia (14-8)
At Chartiers Valley
6:30 p.m. - Quigley (18-7) vs Vincentian (16-8)

Aaron Ward and the Boston Bruins will face the Penguins at 7:30 p.m. on Fox Sports.

Sports dial

Today
Television
7 p.m. - ESPN - Maryland at Duke, college basketball.
7 p.m. - ESPN2 - St. John's at Cincinnati, college basketball.
7:30 p.m. - Fox Sports - Boston at Pittsburgh, hockey.
9 p.m. - ESPN - Phoenix at Golden State, pro basketball.
9 p.m. - ESPN2 - Kansas State at Texas Tech, college basketball.
Radio
7 p.m. - WCAL (91.9 FM) - Wayne State at California, college basketball.
7 p.m.- KQV (1410) - Duquesne at Dayton, college basketball.
7:30 p.m. - WXDX (105.9 FM) - Boston at Pittsburgh, hockey.

NHL standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Pittsburgh	32	19	5	69	167	152
New Jersey	31	21	4	66	147	134
Philadelphia	30	21	5	65	178	160
N.Y. Rangers	28	24	7	63	144	147
N.Y. Islanders	25	25	7	57	138	167

Northeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Ottawa	34	19	4	72	197	169
Montreal	29	19	9	67	178	163
Buffalo	27	21	8	62	170	157
Boston	28	23	5	61	147	153
Toronto	23	25	9	55	157	184

Southeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Carolina	28	27	4	60	171	187
Washington	27	25	5	59	164	176
Atlanta	27	27	4	58	157	186
Florida	26	27	5	57	158	166
Tampa Bay	24	27	6	54	164	187

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	41	13	5	87	194	130
Nashville	30	22	6	66	169	156
Columbus	26	23	9	61	141	148
St. Louis	25	22	8	58	142	159
Chicago	24	25	6	54	150	160

Northwest Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Minnesota	32	21	4	68	157	152
Calgary	29	20	8	66	165	164
Colorado	30	22	5	65	163	156
Vancouver	28	22	7	63	149	145
Edmonton	26	27	5	57	155	172

Pacific Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	35	20	5	75	176	148
Anaheim	32	22	7	71	150	151
San Jose	31	17	8	70	149	137
Phoenix	28	25	4	60	155	159
Los Angeles	24	32	3	51	167	194

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss or shootout loss.

Tuesday's Games
Carolina 3, Boston 2
Tampa Bay 3, Montreal 2
N.Y. Islanders 4, Philadelphia 3
Buffalo 5, Ottawa 1
Nashville 4, Detroit 2
St. Louis 4, Los Angeles 2
Edmonton 4, Minnesota 2
Anaheim 2, Colorado 1
Calgary 4, San Jose 3, OT
Today's Games
Ottawa at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Washington at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.
Montreal at Florida, 7:30 p.m.

Mid-Atlantic Hockey League

	W	L	T	Pts
Indiana	31	1	0	62
Wooster	14	14	2	30
Jamestown	13	18	0	26
Mon Valley	11	17	3	25
Valley Forge	8	19	2	18

Thursday
Mon Valley at Wooster, 7 p.m.
Valley Forge at Jamestown
Friday
Valley Forge at Mon Valley, 7:30 p.m.
Jamestown at Indiana
Saturday
Jamestown at Mon Valley, 7:30 p.m.
Wooster at Indiana

Bowling results

Tan-O-Bell Lanes
Epiphany Men's League
Standings
Duquesne, 96-65; St. Vincent and Villanova, 80-81; Notre Dame and Holy Cross, 79-82; St. John, 68-93.
High scores
Jim Sepesky, 203-552; Ron Croushore, 221-538; Stephen Crisi, 202-532; Andy Sagona, 202-532; Joe Gallo, 181-528; Will Harris, 182-507; Lee Nicolaus, 179-502; Nick Kostela, 185-500; Anthony Manderino, 187-499; Frank Biseda, 192-493.

PSAC standings

Men
Western Division

	PSAC W	PSAC L	Overall W	Overall L
California	7	0	16	4
Edinboro	6	1	16	5
Indiana	4	2	12	9
Clarion	3	4	11	10
Slippery Rock	3	4	5	16
Lock Haven	1	6	1	20
Shippensburg	0	7	6	16

Eastern Division

	PSAC W	PSAC L	Overall W	Overall L
Cheyney	6	1	14	6
Kutztown	6	1	14	7
Millersville	5	2	16	6
Mansfield	3	4	15	7
East Stroudsburg	2	4	14	7
West Chester	2	5	12	11
Bloomsburg	0	7	8	13

Today
Wayne State at California, 7 p.m.
Indiana at Clarion
Slippery Rock at Edinboro
Shippensburg at Lock Haven
Bloomsburg at Millersville
East Stroudsburg at Cheyney
Kutztown at Mansfield

Women
Western Division

	PSAC W	PSAC L	Overall W	Overall L
Indiana	5	1	20	2
Clarion	5	2	15	6
California	4	3	17	5
Shippensburg	4	3	16	6
Edinboro	3	4	13	8
Lock Haven	2	5	7	14
Slippery Rock	1	6	7	15

Eastern Division

	PSAC W	PSAC L	Overall W	Overall L
Millersville	7	0	18	4
West Chester	5	2	13	8
Cheyney	4	3	8	13
East Stroudsburg	3	3	9	11
Kutztown	2	5	9	13
Bloomsburg	2	5	7	15
Mansfield	1	6	6	16

Today
Wednesday
Indiana at Clarion
Slippery Rock at Edinboro
Shippensburg at Lock Haven
Bloomsburg at Millersville
East Stroudsburg at Cheyney
Kutztown at Mansfield
West Chester at Columbia Union

College basketball

MEN
EAST
Boston U. 79, Binghamton 53
Marquette 89, Seton Hall 64
Penn 70, Princeton 65
Pittsburgh 82, Providence 63
SOUTH
North Carolina 75, Virginia 74
North Florida 67, Savannah St. 57
Vanderbilt 93, Kentucky 52
Winthrop 59, Liberty 50
MIDWEST
Butler 83, Wis.-Milwaukee 75, OT
Illinois 84, Minnesota 60
Indiana St. 76, Bradley 66
Kent St. 79, Cent. Michigan 66
Louisville 88, DePaul 68
N. Illinois 88, Akron 78
Purdue 60, Michigan St. 54
W. Michigan 78, Miami (Ohio) 75, 2OT
SOUTHWEST
Texas-Pan American 86, CS Bakersfield 68
FAR WEST
UNLV 58, Air Force 51
WOMEN
EAST
Connecticut 80, Georgetown 48
Villanova 72, Providence 59
SOUTH
Charlotte 59, Saint Joseph's 57
Georgia Tech 82, Savannah St. 28
High Point 63, Radford 54
Winthrop 77, Charleston Southern 53
MIDWEST
E. Michigan 76, Akron 71
SOUTHWEST
Oklahoma 68, Texas A&M 56

Pitt lineups

PITTSBURGH - 82
Brown 1-5 4-4 6, Young 10-14 2-4 22, Blair 6-8 3-4 15, Benjamin 5-9 0-0 10, Ramon 5-8 0-0 15, Biggs 2-4 0-0 4, Wanamaker 3-4 0-0 6, Frye 0-0 0-0 0, Polen 0-0 0-0 0, McGhee 2-6 0-0 4. Totals 34-58 9-12 82.
PROVIDENCE - 63
McDermott 3-8 1-1 7, McKenzie 2-9 0-0 5, Hanke 5-7 0-0 10, Xavier 5-10 0-0 14, Williams 2-5 0-0 5, Kellogg 2-2 0-0 4, Brooks 5-8 3-3 15, Peterson 0-1 0-2 0, Burch 1-2 0-0 3, Hall 0-2 0-2 0. Totals 25-54 4-8 63.
Halftime—Pittsburgh 42-37.
3-Point Goals—Providence 9-22 (Xavier 4-8, Brooks 2-4, Burch 1-1, McKenzie 1-4, Williams 1-4, McDermott 0-1), Pittsburgh 5-11 (Ramon 5-7, Young 0-1, Brown 0-3). Fouled Out—McDermott. Rebounds—Providence 24 (Hanke 5), Pittsburgh 31 (Blair, Young 7). Assists—Providence 13 (Williams 5), Pittsburgh 22 (Ramon 6). Total Fouls—Providence 13, Pittsburgh 10.
A—10,217.

Sports moves

BASEBALL
American League
MINNESOTA TWINS—Agreed to terms with RHP Livan Hernandez on a one-year contract.
TEXAS RANGERS—Signed OF Kevin Mench to a minor league contract.
National League
NEW YORK METS—Agreed to terms with INF Olmedo Saenz on a minor-league contract.
FOOTBALL
National Football League
BALTIMORE RAVENS—Named Greg Mattison linebackers coach, Chuck Pagano secondary coach, Bob Rogucki strength and conditioning coach, John Dunn assistant strength and conditioning coach, and Marwan Maalouf assistant special teams coach.
NEW ORLEANS SAINTS—Re-signed K Martin Gramatica. Named Aaron Kromer running backs coach and Travis Jones assistant defensive line coach.
NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS—Signed LB T.J. Slaughter.
NEW YORK GIANTS—Signed P Jeff Feagles to a two-year contract.
HOCKEY
National Hockey League
CAROLINA HURRICANES—Recalled LW Ryan Bayda from Albany (AHL).
OTTAWA SENATORS—Assigned LW Nick Foligno to Binghamton (AHL).
PHILADELPHIA FLYERS—Recalled LW Kyle Greentree from Philadelphia (AHL).

Latest Line

BEST BET: Minnesota is just 2-15 straight-up and 6-11 vs. the spread its last 17 games when playing the second game of back to back nights. The Lakers are 4-1 straight-up and 3-1-1 vs. the spread the last five games in this series. Minnesota is averaging just 93.3 points per game its last 10 home games and that will not get the job done against one of the top offensive units in the league. Take the LA Lakers -9 1/2 for another Best Bet winner.

NBA

Favorite	Points	Underdog
San Antonio	1 1/2	CLEVELAND
PHILADELPHIA	9	Memphis
ORLANDO	5	Denver
TORONTO	8 1/2	New Jersey
CHARLOTTE	2	Atlanta
DETROIT	9 1/2	Indiana
BOSTON	9 1/2	New York
New Orleans	4 1/2	MILWAUKEE
LA Lakers	9 1/2	MINNESOTA
DALLAS	8	Portland
HOUSTON	8	Sacramento
Phoenix	1	GOLDEN STATE
Utah	7	SEATTLE
LA CLIPPERS	3 1/2	Washington

College Basketball

Favorite	Points	Underdog
INDIANA	4 1/2	Wisconsin
DUKE	14	Maryland
Ohio	5	TOLEDO
BUFFALO	5 1/2	Ball State
ST. JOSEPH'S	20	St. Bonaventure
NC WILM.	6 1/2	William & Mary
E. MICHIGAN	6	Bowling Green
DAYTON	3	Duquesne
Syracuse	5	SOUTH FLORIDA
HOFSTRA	2	Northeastern
CINCINNATI	6 1/2	St. John's
TEMPLE	3	Rhode Island
Tulsa	4	EAST CAROLINA
VA C'WEALTH	15 1/2	J. Madison
CONNECTICUT	5	Notre Dame
Ark Little Rock	1 1/2	FLA INTER.
GEORGIA ST	3	Delaware
Xavier	7	NC CHARLOTTE
GEORGIA	2 1/2	South Carolina
S. ILLINOIS	3 1/2	Drake
FLORIDA	13	Lsu
Creighton	7	EVANSVILLE
W. KENTUCKY	19 1/2	Troy
Ala Birm.	13	RICE
ALABAMA	2 1/2	Mississippi
ST. LOUIS	9	G. Washington
NEBRASKA	3	Missouri
OKLAHOMA	12 1/2	Iowa State
OKLAHOMA ST	2	Baylor
ILLINOIS ST	8 1/2	Missouri State
Marshall	3	SMU
N. IOWA	7 1/2	Wichita State
TENNESSEE	10	Arkansas
WYOMING	2	Tcu
Kansas State	3	TEXAS TECH
Byu	12	COLORADO ST
MEMPHIS	17 1/2	Houston
Ohio State	9	N'WESTERN
George Mason	11	TOWSON STATE
L. BEACH ST	5 1/2	Cal Riverside
New Mexico	1	SAN DIEGO ST
Davidson	6 1/2	NC GREENS

NHL

Favorite	Goals	Underdog
ATLANTA	Even-1/2	Washington
COLUMBUS	Even-1/2	Chicago
NEW JERSEY	Even-1/2	Ottawa
FLORIDA	Even-1/2	Montreal
PITTSBURGH	1/2-1	Boston
BUFFALO	1/2-1	Toronto

HOME TEAM IN CAPS

Fight schedule

Friday
At Cicero (Ill.) Stadium, Mike Alvarado, Denver, vs. Jesus Rodriguez, Salinas, Calif., 10, super lightweights.
At Mohegan Sun Casino, Uncasville, Conn. (ESPN2). Delvin Rodriguez, Danbury, Conn., vs. Troy Browning, Willingsboro, N.J., 10, welterweights; Ali Oubaali, France, vs. Ashley Theopane, Britain, 10, junior welterweights.
Saturday
At Nuernberg Arena, Nuremberg, Germany, Nikolai Valuev, Russia, vs. Sergei Liakhovich, Belarus, 12, WBA heavyweight eliminator.
At MGM Grand, Las Vegas (PPV), Kelly Pavlik, Youngstown, Ohio, vs. Jermain Taylor, Little Rock, Ark., 12, middleweights; Fernando Montiel, Mexico, vs. Martin Castillo, Los Angeles, 12, for Montiel's WBO super flyweight title; Cristian Mijares, Mexico, vs. Jose Navarro, Los Angeles, 12, for Mijares' WBC super flyweight title; Sergio Martinez, Spain, vs. Eduardo Sanchez, Hollywood, Calif., 10, super welterweights.
Feb. 22
At Fort Lauderdale, Fla. (ESPN2), Richard Gutierrez, Colombia, vs. Miguel Angel Vasquez, Mexico, 10, welterweights; Yuriorkis Gamboa, Cuba, vs. Johnnie Edwards, Florence, S.C., 10, junior lightweights
At Morongo Casino Resort & Spa, Cabazon, Calif., Enrique Ornelas, Mexico, vs. Norberto Bravo, Tucson, Ariz., 12, for Ornelas' NABF middleweight title; Nestor Rocha, Montebello, Calif., vs. Javier Cintron, Puerto Rico, 10, bantamweights.
Feb. 23
At Madison Square Garden, New York (HBO), Wladimir Klitschko, Ukraine, vs. Sultan Ibragimov, Russia, 12, IBF/WBO heavyweight unification; John Duddy, Ireland, vs. Michi Munoz, Topeka, Kan., 10, middleweights; Joe Greene, New York, vs. Peter Quillin, New York, 10, middleweights.

NBA standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	40	9	.816	—
Toronto	27	23	.540	13 1/2
New Jersey	23	29	.442	18 1/2
Philadelphia	22	30	.423	19 1/2
New York	15	36	.294	26

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	32	21	.604	—
Washington	24	27	.471	7
Atlanta	21	27	.438	8 1/2
Charlotte	18	34	.346	13 1/2
Miami	9	41	.180	21 1/2

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	38	13	.745	—
Cleveland	29	22	.569	9
Indiana	21	31	.404	17 1/2
Chicago	20	31	.392	18
Milwaukee	19	33	.365	19 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Orleans	35	15	.700	—
Dallas	34	17	.667	1 1/2
San Antonio	33	17	.660	2
Houston	31	20	.608	4 1/2
Memphis	14	37	.275	21 1/2

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	33	19	.635	—
Denver	32	19	.627	1/2
Portland	28	23	.549	4 1/2
Seattle	13	37	.260	19
Minnesota	10	40	.200	22

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	36	15	.706	—
L.A. Lakers	34	17	.667	2
Golden State	31	20	.608	5
Sacramento	23	27	.460	12 1/2
L.A. Clippers	17	32	.347	18

Tuesday's Games
Detroit 94, Atlanta 90
Boston 104, Indiana 97
Denver 114, Miami 113, OT
New Jersey 92, Minnesota 88
Memphis 107, Sacramento 94
New Orleans 100, Chicago 86
Today's Games
Denver at Orlando, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Memphis at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
San Antonio at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
New York at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
New Orleans at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Portland at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Golden State, 9 p.m.
Utah at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Washington at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.
Thursday's Games
Miami at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m.

Stewart, Busch on probation

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — It began with crunched fenders, harsh words and maybe even a punch in the face. But the final result was just a slap on the wrist from NASCAR: a six-race probation for Tony Stewart and Kurt Busch.

Heading into Sunday's Daytona 500, it's beginning to look like NASCAR officials were serious when they said they will cut drivers some slack on their bad behavior this year.

"We're still working into letting the drivers develop and vent in proper ways, but we're giving them some more latitude," NASCAR vice president of competition Robin Pemberton said Tuesday. "We said in the offseason we would do that and I think this is another step to letting you know what we mean."

The punishments to Stewart and Busch stem from a confrontation between the two former series champions, who wrecked in practice last week and then carried it into the NASCAR officials' trailer.

While nobody involved in the incident would confirm that Stewart actually punched Busch during the first of their two meetings with officials, as is widely believed, Pemberton inferred that Busch's penalty was for what happened on the track and Stewart's was for what happened afterward.

BVA (FROM PAGE ONE)

rematch to be any different from when the two teams combined for 157 points last month.

"I'm expecting this game to be in the 70s," he said.

Keystone Oaks features the WPIAL's top one-two scoring punch in 6-1 senior Jim Taylor and 6-3 junior Corey Bellovich, who are both in the 1,000-point club.

Taylor averages 19 points, one more than Bellovich.

It's Bellovich, however, that concens Dudzinski.

"Bellovich is tough to defend and is a tough matchup for us," he said.

Bellowich lit up the Leps for 29 points with Taylor adding 24.

BVA, meanwhile, is led by 5-10 senior Jacob Dudzinski, the school's No. 2 all-time scorer with 1,418 points.

Dudzinski, the coach's son, is averaging 20 points and poured in 30 at Keystone Oaks.

The other starters are 6-2 sophomore Josh Pohlot, 6-5 senior John Naylor, 5-10 sophomore Cory Williams and 5-10 freshman Bo Lustig.

Also expected to see playing time are 6-5 sophomore Jared Pawlak and 6-1 sophomore Andrew Spate inside and 6-0 sophomore Ethan Cieply and 5-10 freshman Matt Green.

"Playing on a bigger college floor I'll go with more players," said Dudzinski. "We have nothing to lose. We're the underdog and we'll just go out and play as hard as we can.

"We've been getting no respect all year and can earn some with a win."

SPORTS HISTORY

30 Years Ago
Three Charleroi Junior High wrestlers — Bill Yagnich (95), Carl Vickers (110) and Jim Edwards (165) — captured titles in the Junior Section 9 tournament at Waynesburg.

20 Years Ago
Chad Scott scored 25 points in Monessen's 106-45 romp over California.
Yancy Taylor and Mark Jasko both had 18 points in Ringgold's 87-72 loss at West Mifflin.
Chuck Kelley scored 18 points in Belle Vernon Area's 76-61 defeat to Tri-Valley.
Charleroi downed Mon Valley Catholic, 65-61, behind Garnett Rawls' 22 points.
Dwain Painter was named the Pittsburgh Steelers' new receivers coach.

10 Years Ago
Defending champion California University was ranked No. 1 in the NCAA Division II softball preseason poll.

Visit the Trib Total Media Booth at the 23rd Annual Allegheny Sport, Travel, and Outdoor Show, and . . .

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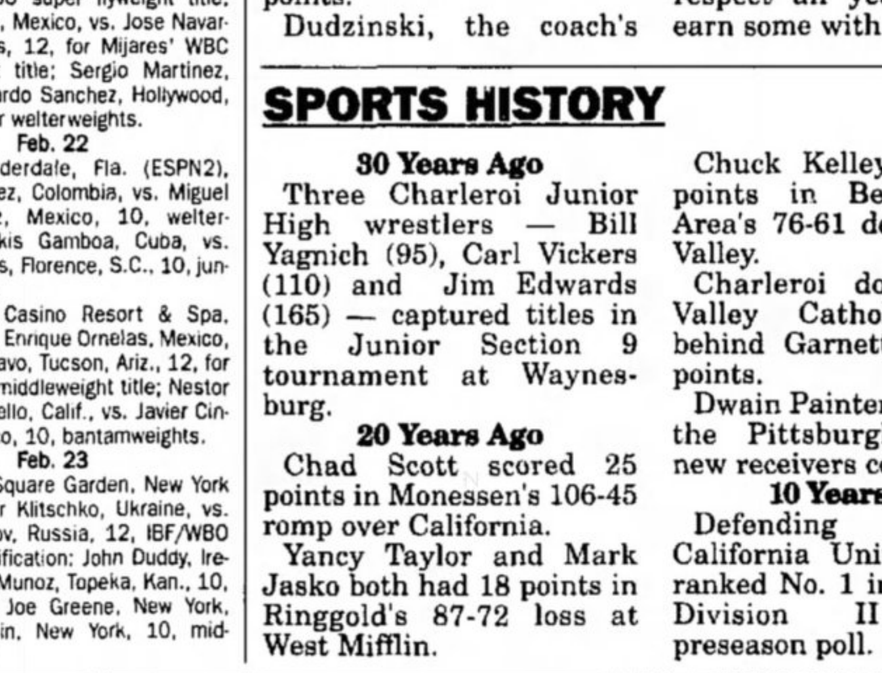

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February 13-17, 2008 · ExpoMart, Monroeville
Prize includes an 8-hour, 4-person walleye fishing charter on Lake Erie out of Lorain, OH. Courtesy of A-Hoy Sara-J Charters.
Courtesy of TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

COMICS

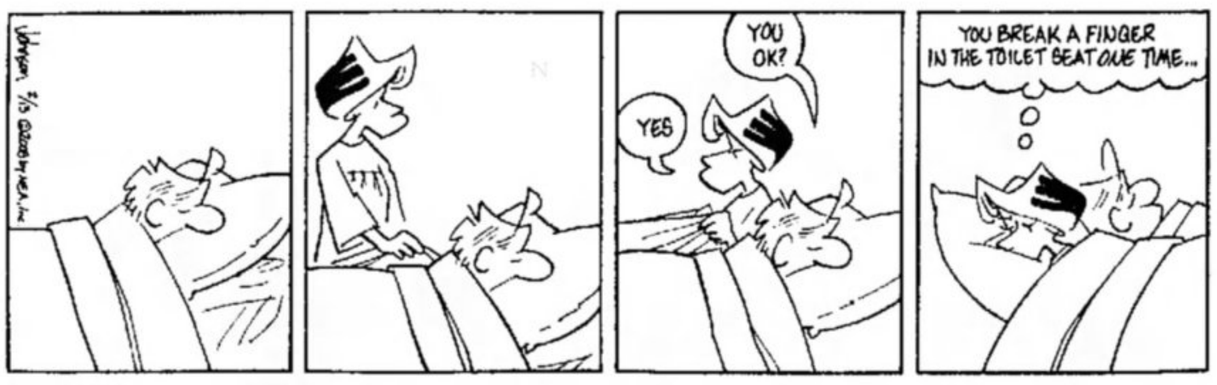
CATHY® by Cathy Guisewite

SIMPLE IS ALWAYS BEST FOR VALENTINE'S DAY.
THANK HEAVENS!
VALENTINE COACH
A LOVE POEM WRITTEN BY YOU ON PAPER PRESSED FROM THE FLOWERS IN YOUR GARDEN!
A HAND-BOUND BOOK OF THE 500 THINGS YOU LOVE BEST ABOUT HER!
A PATH OF ROSE PETALS LEADING TO A CHOCOLATE SOUFFLÉ THAT YOU BAKED YOURSELF!
JEWELRY!! JUST SELL ME SOME JEWELRY!!
THAT WAS EASY.
LIKE I SAID, SIMPLE IS ALWAYS BEST!
VALENTINE COACH

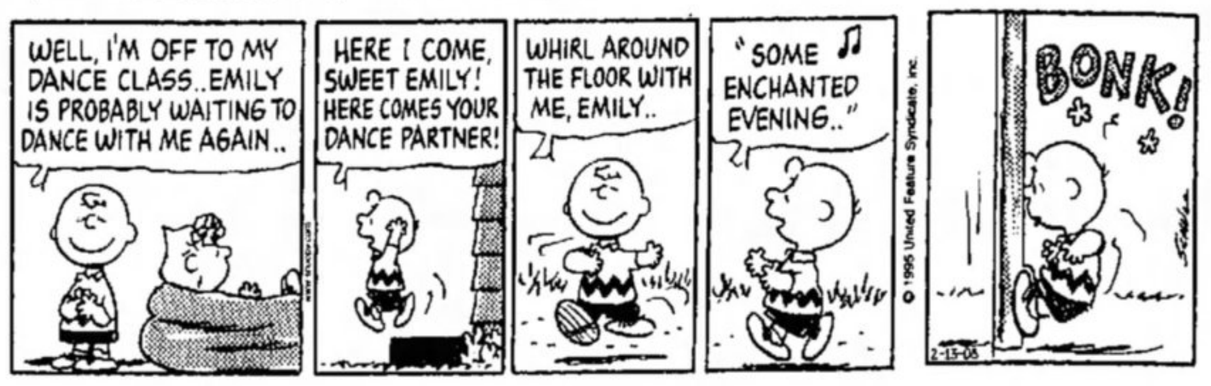
GARFIELD® by Jim Davis

I WAS GOING TO MAKE LIZ A VALENTINE'S DAY CARD...
JIM DAVIS 2-13
BUT I CAN'T CUT OUT A PAPER HEART TO SAVE MY LIFE!
MAYBE I COULD SUBSTITUTE ANOTHER ORGAN
"I LOVE YOU WITH ALL MY SPLEEN"

ARLO and JANIS® by Jimmy Johnson



Classic **PEANUTS®** by Charles M. Schulz


WELL, I'M OFF TO MY DANCE CLASS..EMILY IS PROBABLY WAITING TO DANCE WITH ME AGAIN..
HERE I COME, SWEET EMILY! HERE COMES YOUR DANCE PARTNER!
WHIRL AROUND THE FLOOR WITH ME, EMILY..
"SOME ENCHANTED EVENING.."
BONK!
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MONTY® by Jim Meddick

E-Mail: JimMeddick@aol.com

HI & LOIS® by Mort Walker and Dick Browne

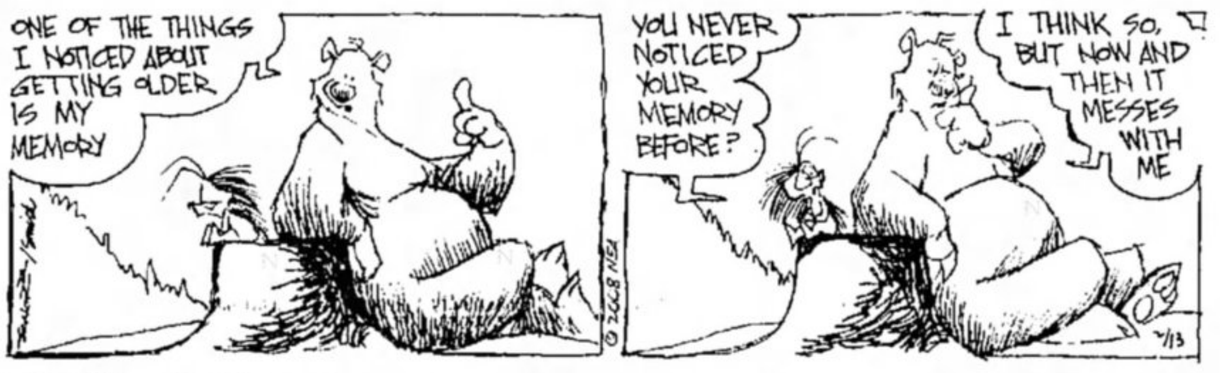
HEY, DOC... WHOS?
AHHH! IT'S ONE OF THE PRIMITIVES!
DON'T BE AFRAID. THEY'RE QUITE DOCILE.
"PRIMITIVES"?
AH. I SEE. NO DOUBT YOU'VE LEARNED TO PLACATE THEM WITH PLASTIC BEADS AND SHINY OBJECTS... SMART MOVE...
SHINY OBJECTS? WHERE? CAN I HAVE ONE?
THE PRIMITIVES OF THIS ERA HAVE A PUNGENT ODOR ABOUT THEM...
I LIKE SHINY THINGS...
THIS ONE ESPECIALLY SO...

BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker

BORN LOSER® by Art Sansom

GRIZZWELLS® by Bill Schorr

COW AND BOY® by Mark Leiknes


ONE OF THE THINGS I NOTICED ABOUT GETTING OLDER IS MY MEMORY
YOU NEVER NOTICED YOUR MEMORY BEFORE?
I THINK SO, BUT NOW AND THEN IT MESSES WITH ME

PEOPLE ARE TOO TIRED TO MAKE A STINK ANYMORE.
GLOBAL WARMING. GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION. WE NEVER DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT CUZ AT THE END OF THE DAY, WE'RE JUST TOO TIRED.
TO CLARIFY, "MAKE A STINK" MEANS PROTESTING TO INITIATE CHANGE?
YEAH.
GOOD, NEVER THOUGHT THE OTHER WAY REQUIRED EFFORT.

FRANK and ERNEST® by Bob Thaves

HERMAN® by Jim Unger

KIT'N' CARLYLE® by Larry Wright

"YOU'VE REACHED THE TOWER OF BABEL VOICE MAIL. PRESS ONE FOR ARAMAIC, TWO FOR SUMERIAN, THREE FOR BABYLONIAN, FOUR FOR..."
THIS COULD TAKE A WHILE.
2-13 THAVES

SOUP TO NUTZ™ by Rick Stromoski

SO WHO'S YOUR SECRET VALENTINE?
IF I TOLD YOU IT WOULDN'T BE A SECRET NOW, WOULD IT?
LET'S JUST SAY IT'S A VERY UNIQUE PERSON! WHO MAKES THE EARTH STAND STILL FOR ME...
KGLATUP BARADA! NIKTO!

BIG NATE® by Lincolin Peirce

MR. ROSA? CAN I EAT MY LUNCH IN HERE WITH YOU?
SURE, NATE! COME IN!
KNOK KNOK
SIIIGH...
SOMETHING TELLS ME HE'S NOT HERE BECAUSE HE COULDN'T FIND A SEAT IN THE CAFETERIA.
ARTUR! NOT FAIR!

ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue

BET YOU'RE SORRY 'BOUT TH' WAY YOU TREATED ME NOW, AREN'T YA, COCOLA?!
EARLIE OOP? IS THAT YOU?!
2-13
YOU BET IT IS!
YOU ANIMAL! HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO ME?!

MARK TRAIL® by Jack Elrod

THE VALLEY INDEPENDENT Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Hip-knee link
6 Female relative
11 Movie rentals
13 Wane
14 Greek city-state
15 Cleaned the board
16 Sprint rival
17 Wall climber
18 — -relief
21 One-celled plants
23 Sister of Helios
26 Sharpen a cheddar
27 Colorful carp
28 Tool handle
29 Kerosene burner
31 Fjord city
32 Mix
33 Bitterly cold
36 Captain's shout
37 Hearing aid?
38 Riviera summer
39 Deface
40 Silly comedy
42 Lawyer's thing
43 Herriot, for one
44 Modicum
46 For some time
49 Van Gogh painting
53 Think logically
54 Dome
55 "Ghosts" writer
56 NASA outfit (hyph.)

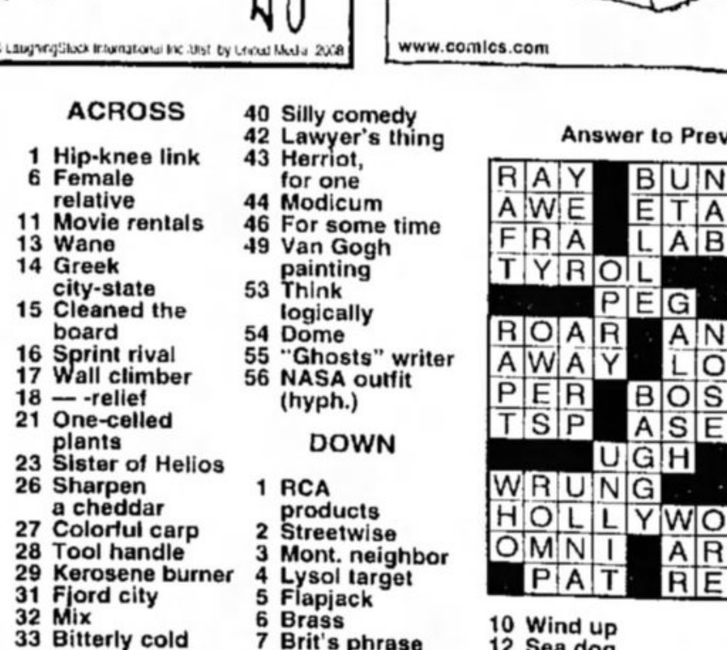
DOWN

1 RCA products
2 Streetwise
3 Mont. neighbor
4 Lysol target
5 Flapjack
6 Brass
7 Brit's phrase (2 wds.)
8 Dangerous curve
9 Average grade
10 Wind up
12 Sea dog
13 Darth's daughter
18 Fragrant fir
19 First name in mystery
20 Junior's dad
22 Spice rack item
23 Not as complicated
24 Recently (2 wds.)
25 Evening wraps
28 Ad — committee
30 Have a go at
34 Acid in milk
35 Home furnishing (2 wds.)
40 Serious offender
41 Nefertiti's god
43 Workbench tool
45 Downturns
46 "Exodus" name
47 Fly catcher
48 Is down with
50 Old French coin
51 Yale athlete
52 Practiced Zen

Answer to Previous Puzzle

R	A	Y		B	U	N	S		I	S	M	
A	W	E		E	T	A	T		L	U	I	S
F	R	A		L	A	B	Y	R	I	N	T	H
T	Y	R	O	L				H	A	S	T	E
			P	E	G		B	I	D			
R	O	A	R		A	N	O	N		G	A	B
A	W	A	Y		L	O	N	E		A	X	E
P	E	R		B	O	S	S		M	I	L	E
T	S	P		A	S	E	A		U	T	E	S
			U	G	H		I	B	M			
W	R	U	N	G				A	S	C	O	T
H	O	L	L	Y	W	O	O	D		E	G	O
O	M	N	I		A	R	I	D		D	E	L
	P	A	T		R	E	L	Y		E	E	L

GET MORE in the new "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" series from Quill Driver. Call 800-605-7176.



2-13

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Old friend who's nursing grudge won't let go of pain

Dear **ABBY**

DEAR ABBY: When I recently moved to Ohio, I left behind a group of dear friends. One of them, "Cheryl," and I talk on the phone almost every night.

Everyone in this group got along beautifully. We had great times and have fabulous memories of growing up together. Ten years ago, while I was away at college, the group had a falling out having to do with Cheryl. It was silly and childish — it was over a "boy." It was soon forgotten and apologies were offered. But Cheryl held a grudge and refused to speak to any of the others.

Abby, more than a decade has passed. We're all married now, with kids and jobs. I love Cheryl dearly, but she refuses to reconcile. She's extremely sensitive, and the mere mention of the subject starts her whining about the "mistreatment" she endured.

So even though I'm far away, once again, I must listen to her constant complaint that she has no friends except me. She's upset that I moved away. I'm tired of splitting my time between her and the rest of my friends when I return for a visit.

How can I convince Cheryl that there is a group of girls who miss her terribly and just need her to grow up enough to forgive and forget? — **TORN IN DAYTON, OHIO**

DEAR TORN: Young girls can be very cruel. It would be interesting to know the details of what this group of "friends" did to Cheryl when they turned on her, because whatever they did left her unable to trust any of them again. If they really "miss her terribly," then they should be the ones telling her so — not you.

Because her neediness and self-pity have become more than you care to handle, before you are turned off completely, you should let Cheryl know that you no longer want to discuss "ancient history." And because you appear to be her only friend — and a long-distance one at that — you'd be doing her a favor to suggest that she get counseling to help her move beyond the past.

DEAR ABBY: I have met a man, "Alvin," who is the love of my life. He is divorced; I have never been married. Alvin has a 16-year-old daughter whom he adores, and she does not approve of our relationship. We want to be married, but he says it has to be OK with his daughter.

If Alvin really loved me, would he let her stand in the way of our happiness? — **WAITING FOR APPROVAL, CHARLOTTE, N.C.**

DEAR WAITING: He might — if he felt guilty enough about the breakup of his marriage to her mother. My question to you is, do you love Alvin enough to postpone any wedding plans until his daughter approves, or is out on her own — whichever comes sooner?

DEAR ABBY: I have something I would like to know just for the sake of curiosity.

When my mother became pregnant with me, she was married — but not to the man who impregnated her. Does this make me a bastard? I am not going to be devastated if the answer is yes — I just want to know for the knowing. — **AM I OR AM I NOT, COSHOCTON, OHIO**

DEAR ARE YOU OR ARE YOU NOT: The answer to your question is no. Because you were born within the bonds of wedlock, you are as legitimate as the next person.

P.S.: The term "bastard" went out of style at least two decades ago. A better term would be "love child."

(Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.)

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

WEDNESDAY EVENING — FEB. 13, 2008

	6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30	12AM	12:30	1AM	1:30	2AM	2:30
CBS (2) KDKA (7) WTRF (10) WTAJ	News (N)	(7) (10) CBS Evening News With Katie Couric (N)	(2) CBS Evening News-Couric/ (7) Entertainment/ (10) Inside	(2) The Insider (N)/ (7) Inside Edition/ (10) Two and a Half Men	Big Brother: 'Til Death Do You Part Eviction		Criminal Minds "True Night" A comic-book artist helps to search for a serial killer.		CSI: NY "You Only Die Once" The wealthy are robbed; clues point to a fancy vehicle.		News (N)	Late Show With David Letterman Martin Short; Amy Ryan. (N)		The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson Michael Clarke Duncan. (N)		(2) Extra/ (7) The Insider/ (10) Everybody Loves Raymond "Crazy Chin"	(2) (10) Paid/ (7) That '70s Show Donna lets Eric win game.	(2) Paid/ (7) (10) CBS Up to the Minute (N)
ABC (4) WTAE (23) WATM	(4) News (N)/ (23) The Insider (N)	ABC's World News With Charles Gibson (N)	(4) Inside Edition/ (23) Jeopardy! (N)	(4) Entertainment Tonight/ (23) Wheel of Fortune	Wife Swap "Beckman-Heskett/Childs" Executive swaps places with a stay-at-home mother. (N)		Supernanny "Daniels Family" Jo confronts a couple whose six children rule the house. (N)		Cashmere Mafia Mia and Caitlin search Jack's apartment for a sex tape that he and Mia made. (N)		(4) Ch. 4 Action News at 11 (N)/ (23) News (N)	Nightline (N)	Jimmy Kimmel Live		(4) Oprah Winfrey/ (23) Paid	(23) Paid	(4) Paid/ (23) Jerry Springer (N)	(4) Ch. 4 Action News at 11
NBC (6) WJAC (9) WTOV (11) WPXI	News (N)	NBC Nightly News (N)	(6) Entertainment Tonight (N)/ (9) (11) Jeopardy! "Teen Tournament" (N)	(6) Who Wants to Be a Millionaire (N)/ (9) (11) Wheel of Fortune (N)	Deal or No Deal Contestants get a chance to win money. (N)		Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Offense" A key witness in an upcoming trial is found dead.		Law & Order "Illegal" An officer's attempt to stop a riot may have resulted in a woman's death. (N)		News (N)	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno (N)		Late Night With Conan O'Brien (N)		Last Call With Carson Daly	Poker After Dark Chris Ferguson; Johnny Chan; Berry Johnston; Jamie Gold; Phil Hellmuth; Huck Seed. (N)	
FOX (8) WWCP (53) WPGH	(8) The Simpsons/ (53) Two and a Half Men	(8) That '70s Show/ (53) Frasier	(8) The Simpsons/ (53) Two and a Half Men	Seinfeld "The Beard" Elaine falls for a gay acquaintance.	American Idol The 24 semifinalists are revealed. (N)		The Moment of Truth Contestants must tell the truth during a lie-detector test. (N)		(8) News (N)/ (53) Channel 11 News on FOX 53 at 10	(8) Seinfeld Jerry fears his comatose neighbor.	(8) The King of Queens/ (53) Seinfeld	(8) Frasier/ (53) Scrubs		(8) The Waterboy/ (53) Scrubs	(53) Paid	(53) Paid	(53) Paid	(8) Breathe Better/ (53) Sex and the City	(8) Core Fitness Secrets/ (53) Cheaters
(13) WQED	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Nightly Business Report	On Q	America's Ballroom Challenge "International Standard"		African American Lives 2 Morgan Freeman's great-grandmother's story of slavery; Peter Gomes' ancestors. (N)				Charlie Rose (N)			OnQ Magazine	Tavis Smiley Bill Nelson.	Nova The prototypes of the Almaz military space stations.		The Mormons	
(19) WPCW	The People's Court (N)		Everybody-Raymond	Everybody-Raymond	America's Next Top Model "Exposed, Part II" (N)		One Tree Hill "In da Club"		The 10 O'Clock News	The Nightly Sports Call	Malcolm in the Middle	According to Jim		That '70s Show	King of the Hill	South Park "Gocbacks"	Paid	Paid	Paid
(22) WPMY	The Simpsons	Family Guy	The Simpsons	Family Guy	Cupid's Funniest Moments		Masters-Illusion		TMZ (N)	Frasier	Law & Order: Criminal Intent			Paid	Paid	Bernie Mac	My Wife-Kids	Half & Half	Half & Half
(40) WPCB	The 700 Club		Focus 4		Today God	Heritage	Joel Osteen	Aspiring	With Arlene	Quick Study	CBN News	Richard and Lindsay Roberts		Theater		Focus 4		Dream Center	Laverne Tripp
(59) WBGN	Temptation	Temptation	Degrassi	Reno 911!	The Nanny	Mad Abt. You	Stone Undercover		Cold Squad		Reno 911!	Blind Date		Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
A&E	Cold Case Files		CSI: Miami "Forced Entry"		CSI: Miami "Identity"		CSI: Miami "Nothing to Lose"		CSI: Miami "Nothing to Lose"		CSI: Miami "Money Plane"			CSI: Miami "Identity"		CSI: Miami "Nothing to Lose"		CSI: Miami "Nothing to Lose"	
ABCFAM	★ ★ ★ Remember the Titans (2000)					★ ★ ★ Remember the Titans (2000)					The 700 Club			Whose Line?	Whose Line?	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
AMC	★ ★ ★ ½ The Matrix (1999)				Breaking Bad "Pilot"		Breaking Bad		Breaking Bad		Breaking Bad "Pilot"			Breaking Bad		Breaking Bad		★ ★ ★ Death Wish (1974)	
ANPL	The Crocodile Hunter		Living With Tigers		Dog Show		The Blue Planet		Animal Cops Detroit		Dog Show			The Blue Planet		Animal Cops Detroit		Living With Tigers	
BBC	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares		BBC World News America		Victoria Beckham		Teen Transsexual		BBC World News America		Victoria Beckham			Teen Transsexual		Coupling	Tate	The Weakest Link	
BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live (N)		★ ★ ½ First Time Felon (1997)						American Gangster		Movie Special	Hell Date		Jamie Foxx	Jamie Foxx	Comicview		BET Late	
BRAVO	Project Runway		Project Runway "On Garde!"		Project Runway		Project Runway		Project Runway (N)		Project Runway			Make Me a Supermodel		Project Runway		Make Me a Supermodel	
CMT	Redneck Wed	Redneck Wed	Redneck Wed	Redneck Wed	★ ★ ½ Naomi & Wynonna: Love Can Build a Bridge (1995)							Gone Country			Gone Country	Gone Country	Redneck Wed	CMT Music	
CNBC	Mad Money		Kudlow & Company		Fast Money		American Greed (N)		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money			American Greed		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Paid	Paid
CNN	The Situation Room		Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Election Center		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360					Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360		Anderson Cooper 360	
COM	Shriek If You Know		Scrubs	Scrubs	Daily Show	Colbert	Futurama	South Park	South Park	Reno 911!	Daily Show	Colbert		South Park	Reno 911!	Daily Show	Colbert	Dr. Jekyll and Ms. Hyde	
COURT	Wildest Police Videos		Cops	Cops	Most Shocking (N)		Most Daring		Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files		Most Shocking		Most Daring		Forensic Files	Forensic Files
CSPAN	House of Representatives				Tonight From Washington						Capital News Today							Today in Washington	
DISC	Cash Cab	Cash Cab	How It's Made	How It's Made	Futurecar Extreme cars.		MythBusters (N)		Smash Lab (N)		MythBusters			Futurecar Extreme cars.		MythBusters		Smash Lab	
DISNEY	Wizards-Place	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	★ ★ ★ Mulan (1998)				That's-Raven	Life Derek	Zack & Cody	Han. Montana		Replacements	Kim Possible	Emperor New	Dragon	Buzz Light	Timon
E!	The Soup	Chelsea	E! News (N)	The Daily 10	Jenna Jameson: The E! True Hollywood Story				Snoop Father	Snoop Father	E! News	Chelsea		The Daily 10	Match	Girl Next Door	Snoop Father	The Soup	Chelsea
ESPN	SportsCenter		College Basketball Maryland at Duke.				NBA Basketball Phoenix Suns at Golden State Warriors.					SportsCenter				NFL Live (N)	Fastbreak	SportsCenter	
ESPNC	Schwab	Schwab	American Gladiators		Boxing Best of Butterbean I.		All Rap		American Gladiators		Bull Riding			The Contender		Wrestling	Wrestling	Cheap Seats	Arliss
ESPN2	NASCAR Now		College Basketball St. John's at Cincinnati.				College Basketball Kansas State at Texas Tech.				SportsCenter	Gamenight		NASCAR Now		Formula D Drifting		Winter X-Games	
EWTN	Eucharistic	Maronite Tri.	Daily Mass: Our Lady		EWTN Live		Super Saints	Holy Rosary	Padre Pio: The Last Mass		Faith-Culture	Domestic		Daily Mass: Our Lady		EWTN Live		Domestic	Jesus Christ
FNC	Special Report		Fox Report-Shepard Smith		The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity & Colmes		On the Record-Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor			Hannity & Colmes		On the Record-Van Susteren		Special Report	
FOOD	Minute Meals	Minute Meals	Emeril Live		Good Eats	Good Eats	Challenge		Dinner	Dinner	Good Eats	Unwrapped		Challenge		Dinner	Dinner	Good Eats	Unwrapped
FSN	Final Score	Savran on SportsBeat	NHL Hockey Boston Bruins at Pittsburgh Penguins.						FSN Live	Final Score	Best Damn Top 50 Special			Final Score	Best Damn Top 50 Special		In My Words	Final Score	Final Score
FX	★ ★ ★ X-Men (2000)				★ ★ Fantastic Four (2005)				★ ★ Fantastic Four (2005)					'70s Show	'70s Show	Married...	Married...	Comfort	Paid
GOLF	PGA Championship Highlights		Play Lessons	Gearing Up	Inside PGA	Golf Central	19th Hole (N)	The Turn	Top 10	19th Hole	The Approach	Golf Central		19th Hole	Top 10	Gearing Up	The Turn	Golf Hawaii	Golf Central
GSN	Lingo	Whammy	Weakest Link		Be a Millionaire		Family Feud	Family Feud	How Much	Chain	Lingo	Whammy		Be a Millionaire		Trivia Trap	Now You See	High Stakes Poker	
HALL	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Walker, Texas Ranger		Walker, Texas Ranger		Love Is a Four Letter Word (2007)				Murder, She Wrote			Murder, She Wrote		Walker, Texas Ranger		Walker, Texas Ranger	
HGTV	Rezoned	If Walls Could	House Worth?	House	Designed-Sell	Get It Sold	Deserving	Design-Dime	House	Sleep on It (N)	Desperate Sp.	Whats		Designed-Sell	Get It Sold	Deserving	Design-Dime	House	Sleep on It
HIST	Ancient Discoveries		Modern Marvels Cheese.		Modern Marvels		MonsterQuest		UFO Hunters "Abductions"		UFO Files			Modern Marvels		MonsterQuest		UFO Hunters "Abductions"	
LIFE	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Still Standing	Still Standing	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Reba	Will & Grace	Will & Grace		Frasier	Frasier	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	The Nanny	Paid
MSNBC	Tucker		Hardball		Countdown-Olbermann		Live With Dan Abrams		Conviction: Murder		Conviction: Orchard			Countdown-Olbermann		Conviction: Murder		Conviction: Orchard	
MTV	True Life	True Life Outcasts.		Rob & Big	Making the Band 4		Real World-Road Rules		Real World-Road Rules		Making the Band 4			Real World-Road Rules		Real World-Road Rules		Rob & Big	Rob & Big
NICK	Drake & Josh	Drake & Josh	Zoey 101	Ned's School	SpongeBob	Drake & Josh	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	George Lopez	George Lopez	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince		Home Imp.	Home Imp.	George Lopez	George Lopez	Cosby Show	Cosby Show
OXY	Bad Girls	Bad Girls	★ ½ Catwoman (2004)				★ ½ Catwoman (2004)				Lipstick Jungle "Pilot"			The Tyra Banks Show		★ ★ ½ Taking Lives (2004)			
PCN	PCN Tours		PA Public Affairs															Deutsche Welle News	
PCNC	Lynn Cullen Show Talk show.		News	Psychiatric	NightTalk With Ann Devlin		News		NightTalk With Ann Devlin		Honsberger	Fedko Fone		News			Paid	NightTalk With Ann Devlin	
SCIFI	Stargate SG-1		Ghost Hunters		Ghost Hunters		Ghost Hunters International		Ghost Hunters		Ghost Hunters International			Ghost Hunters "Old Jail"		Twilight Zone	Twilight Zone	The X-Files "Field Trip"	
SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		UFC Unleashed		Pros vs. Joes		UFC Unleashed			CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		Star Trek: Voyager		Blade: The Series "Monsters"	
TBS	Friends	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Family Guy	Family Guy	House-Payne	House-Payne	House-Payne	House-Payne	Sex and-City	Sex and-City		10 Items-Less	★ ★ ½ Turner & Hooch (1989)				Art of War
TCM	★ ★ ★ Houseboat (1958)				★ ★ ★ ★ The Quiet Man (1952)				★ ★ ★ ½ Roman Holiday (1953)						★ ★ ½ The Mating Season (1951)			★ ★ ★ The Tender Trap	
TLC	Property Ladder		Man Whose Arms Exploded		Incredibly Small		Dr. G: Medical Examiner		Big Medicine "Life or Death"		Incredibly Small			Dr. G: Medical Examiner		Big Medicine "Life or Death"		Man Whose Arms Exploded	
TNT	Law & Order "Trade This"		Law & Order "Under God"		Law & Order "The Sixth Man"		★ ★ ★ ½ Seven (1995)				Cold Case "Fly Away"			Without a Trace "Trip Box"		Without a Trace "Moving On"		Without a Trace	
TOON	Scooby-Doo	Scooby-Doo	Codename	Camp Lazlo	Chowder	Johnny Test	Jimmy's Head	Courage-Dog	Ed, Edd	Naruto	Family Guy	Family Guy		Chicken	Shin Chan	Ghost in Shell	Eureka 7	Family Guy	Family Guy
TRAVEL	Owned Islands		High End Hawaii		Best Places to Pig Out		Most Unique McDonald's		Treasures	Treasures	High End Hawaii			Best Places to Pig Out		Most Unique McDonald's		Treasures	Treasures
TVLAND	Bev. Hillbillies	Bev. Hillbillies	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Sanford	Sanford	Sanford	Sanford	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H		Just Shoot	Just Shoot	Bev. Hillbillies	Bev. Hillbillies	Sanford	Jeffersons
USA	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: SVU		NCIS "One Shot, One Kill"		NCIS "The Good Samaritan"		Law & Order: Criminal Intent			Law & Order: SVU		★ ★ ½ In & Out (1997)			
VH1	Rock of Love	Free Radio	Celebrity Rehab		★ ★ ½ Sixteen Candles (1984)				The Flavor of Love		Salt N Pepa	Celebrity Rehab			Free Radio	Rock of Love-Bret Michaels		Rock of Love-Bret Michaels	
VS.	World Extreme Cagefighting		TapouT		WEC WrekCage		World Extreme Cagefighting Urijah Faber vs. Chance Farrar. From Las Vegas.					TapouT			World Extreme Cagefighting Urijah Faber vs. Chance Farrar. From Las Vegas.				
WE	Bridezillas		Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Rich Bride, Poor Bride		Culture Clash Weddings (N)		Bridezillas			Bridezillas		Culture Clash Weddings		Rich Bride, Poor Bride	
WGN	Funniest Pets	Funniest Pets	Funniest Home Videos		Corner Gas	Corner Gas	Becker	Becker	WGN News at Nine (N)		Scrubs	Scrubs		Corner Gas	Becker	Funniest Home Videos		The Steve Wilkos Show (N)	
ENC	★ ★ Universal Soldier (1992)				★ ★ ½ The Da Vinci Code (2006)						★ ★ ½ The Guardian (2006)					★ ½ Hudson Hawk (1991)			No Way Out
HBO	REAL Sports		★ ★ ★ Hot Shots! Part Deux (1993)		Countdown		In Treatment	In Treatment	Real Time With Bill Maher		The Wire			★ ½ Money Train (1995)				★ ★ ½ Smokin' Aces (2007)	
MAX	★ ★ Domino	★ ½ Universal Soldier: The Return (1999)			★ ★ The Hills Have Eyes (2006)				★ ★ Pathfinder (2007)			Kinky Sex Club (2005)				★ ★ ★ White Men Can't Jump (1992)			
SHOW	★ ★ ★ ½ The Truman Show (1998)				The L Word		★ ★ ★ Clerks (1994)			★ ★ Clerks II (2006)				Pauly Shore's Natural Born Komics			★ ★ Outside Ozona (1998)		
STARZ	★ ½ The Grudge 2 (2006)				★ ★ ★ Déjà Vu (2006)				Head Case	Hollywd Res.	Head Case	Hollywd Res.		★ ½ Pulse (2006)			★ ★ ½ The Holiday (2006)		
TMC	Premium	★ ★ ½ Keeping Mum (2006)				★ ★ ★ Fall From Grace (2007)		★ ★ La Mujer de Mi Hermano (2005)				★ ★ Dangerous Game (1993)					★ ★ ½ Deepwater (2005)		

FEATURES

CALENDAR WATCH

Thursday

■ Monessen Italian Heritage Society board of directors meeting, Mon Valley Community Health Center, Monessen, 7 p.m.

■ Father William D. Fries Council 956 Charleroi Knights of Columbus meeting, council home, rosary, 7:30 p.m., meeting, 7:50 p.m.

■ Diabetes Support Group meeting, Monongahela Valley Hospital Anthony M. Lombardi Education Conference Center, 6:30 p.m.

■ American Merchant Marine Veterans from Mon Valley Chapter meeting, Hoss's Steak and Sea House, Pleasant Hills, 12:30 p.m.

■ Waffle breakfast, Center in the Woods, California, 8:15 a.m.

■ Valley Garden Club meeting, Lynnwood Lutheran Church, Washington Twp., 9:30 a.m.

■ Caregiver Support Group meeting, Albert Gallatin Home Care and Hospice, Monongahela, 2 to 3:30 p.m.

■ Overeaters Anonymous meeting, Mon Valley Community Health Center, Monessen, 7:30 p.m.

■ Free tax preparation for low or medium income with special preference to ages 60 and older, Monessen Senior Center, for appointment, call (724) 684-6105.

VALLEY GRAPEVINE

Pancake breakfast set in Victory Hill

The Victory Hill Civic and Social Association will sponsor a pancake breakfast 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday. The menu will comprise pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee. The social center is located at 27 Jones Lane, Victory Hill, Carroll Township.

Wylie School get-together set

Students who attended the Wylie School in Carroll Township are invited to a get-together 4 p.m. March 6 at Hoss's Steak and Sea House, Rostraver Township. For reservations, call Buster Lee at (412) 466-2246 or Wilma Demko at (724) 684-8952.

Newell Municipal Authority to meet

The Newell Municipal Authority will hold its monthly meeting 6:30 p.m. Monday in the borough building.

Altar Guild plans Easter bread sale

St. Barbara Altar Guild of Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church, Belle Vernon, is holding an Easter (Paska) bread sale, featuring Baba's Special Recipe March 13-15. Deadline to order is March 9. Advance orders may be placed by calling (724) 929-5529 or (724) 929-8361.

SOAR meeting set in Monessen

The monthly S.O.A.R. meeting will be held 1 p.m. Monday at the M.A.R.S. building in Monessen.

Lifeguard course scheduled at YMCA

The Mon Valley YMCA, Carroll Township, will offer an American Red Cross lifeguard course 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays through the month of March. Participants must attend all classes. To register, call (724) 483-8077.

Musical program set in California

In celebration of President's Day, the German Choir will present a musical patriotic program 11:15 a.m. Monday in the dining room of Center in the Woods, California. Reservations are required by calling (724) 938-3554.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

Today's clue: G equals J

"MA TADF IDO PIXH CP HIML, EHWISMH CN LAS MPIBP PIXCDF PZCDFM MHBCASMTL, CP CM PZH HDO AN LAS." - GIWX XHBASIW

PREVIOUS SOLUTION — "Those who deny freedom to others, deserve it not for themselves, and, under a just God, can not long retain it." - Abe Lincoln

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CRAFT OF THE WEEK

Quilts evoke peace, tranquility

There's something about a beautiful handmade quilt that brings to mind quiet, tranquil afternoons spent dozing and relaxing—the kind of scene we daydream about during the middle of a hectic day. Perhaps it's because the act of quilting is serene and unhurried. Or maybe it's the warm, embracing quality of the quilt itself. Whatever the reason, if you enjoy quilting you know it's a great way to unwind.

A new, full-color, 40-page guidebook makes it easy to "piece a little peace" of your own. "Pieceful Pursuits" features four lovely designs created with comfort and tranquility in mind. Each project includes a materials list, step-by-step instructions, piecing diagrams and full-color photos.

If you're new to quilting or just need a little review, a section of general instructions covers the basics—selecting and preparing fabrics, cutting, piecing and pressing a quilt top, quilting and binding a finished piece and more. Additionally, the book covers machine quilting methods and even making a hanging sleeve.

Designs include "Quiet Afternoons" (pictured), "Memories," "Colorful Thoughts" and "Provence."

The "Pieceful Pursuits" guidebook, No. LA4133, is $10.95. You can find six other quilting projects in a 40-page guidebook,

'Quiet afternoons' quilt

"Quaint Quilts," No. LA3714, available for $11.95. Please include $4 for postage and handling and allow about two weeks for delivery.

To order by mail, clip this article and send it with a check or money order to U-Bild Features, c/o The Valley Independent, 3800 Oceanic Drive, Ste. 107, Oceanside, CA 92056. To order by credit card, call 1-800-828-2453. Visit U-Bild on the Web at craftbook.com.

ENGAGEMENTS

Lloyd-Doherty

William C. and Mary Ann Lloyd, of Carroll Township, have announced the engagement of their daughter, Mary Frances, to John Doherty, son of Charles and Kathleen Doherty, of Inch Island, Donegal, Ireland.

Lloyd is the granddaughter of Mary Pantoni, formerly of Donora. She is a 2004 graduate of Slippery Rock University with a bachelor of arts degree in dance performance. The bride-elect is employed as a personal trainer and Pilates instructor by Equinox Fitness Club in Manhattan, N.Y.

Her fiance is the

John Doherty & Mary F. Lloyd

owner/manager of The Playwright Irish Pub in Manhattan.

A spring 2009 wedding is planned in Pittsburgh.

Senitta-Oliver

Laurel Senitta and Scott Oliver, both of Monessen, became engaged on Christmas Eve.

Senitta is the daughter of William C. Evancho, of Monessen, and the late Dorothy Ann (Roscoe) Evancho.

Her fiance is the son of Larry Oliver, of North Charleroi, and the late Beverly Oliver.

The bride-elect is a manager at Family Dollar in Monessen while Oliver is a manager for Goodyear in West Mifflin.

The couple is planning a fall wedding ceremony.

Awning Sale!

Motorized Awnings also available!

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Keeping your deck or patio cool and comfortable this summer just got a LOT more affordable! Because if you act now you can get a **$200 Discount Certificate**, good toward any SunSetter Retractable Awning — America's #1 best-selling awning. For as little as $398, you can add a gorgeous SunSetter Awning to your home and enjoy the outdoors so much more!

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2008 Pet Superstar

Newspaper in Education

VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!

Vote early, vote often, but be sure to vote for your favorite pet!

Visit **www.valleyindependent.com/petsuperstar** to view the online photo gallery for the Pet Superstar Contest. The winners will be determined by your votes! Cost per vote is 25 cents.*

All proceeds benefit the Newspaper in Education Program.

Round 1 voting closes on Friday, February 22, 2008 at 4:30pm.

OFFICIAL PET SUPERSTAR BALLOT ROUND 1

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

☐ Enclosed Check or Money Order for amount of donation payable to The Valley Independent N.I.E.

Bill my: ☐ Visa ☐ MC ☐ Discover ☐ AmEx ☐ Debit Card

Credit Card #: _____ Exp. _____

I authorize TribTotal Media to automatically debit my selected payment option listed above for my donation.

SIGNATURE: _____

	Pet #	# of votes	Cost Per Vote	Amount
Example	7	40	25¢	= $10.00
1st Place				= $
2nd Place				= $
3rd Place				= $

Total Due: $

ROUND ONE!

Tuesday, February 12, 2008 thru 4:30pm on Friday, February 22, 2008

Bring or Mail To:
The Valley Independent
Pet Superstar Contest
Eastgate 19
Monessen PA 15062

1st Place.....$250
2nd Place.....$150
3rd Place.....$50
In Cash & Prizes

nie Tribune Newspaper in Education

2008 PET SUPERSTAR SPONSORED BY:

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2008 Pet Superstar Voting Rules:

- Each vote is 25 cents*
- Deadline for first round of voting is Friday, February 22 at 4:30 pm.
- You may vote for as many pets as many times as you wish.
- Ballot stuffing is entirely appropriate!
- Voting for your own pet is absolutely acceptable. So is bribing your friends to vote, too!
- Fill out your voting ballot completely so that your votes will go to your chosen pet(s).
- You may also visit www.valleyindependent.com/petsuperstar to download a voting ballot and view the contestant photos online. Votes must be brought in or mailed to The Valley Independent.
- After the deadline, all votes will be tallied to determine the top vote getters
- Votes are not cumulative and will start over during Round 2.
- The top 50 vote getters will be featured in our Second Round of voting appearing on Tuesday, March 4. Voting will then continue until Friday, March 14 at 4:30 pm.
- The top 25 vote getters will be featured in our Third Round of voting appearing on Tuesday, March 18 and will then continue until Friday, March 28 at 4:30 pm. This voting round will determine the winners.
- The top 3 photos receiving the most votes will appear in the newspaper on April 8, 2008. First place is $250.00. Second place is $100.00 and Third place is $50.00.
- All proceeds from the Pet Superstar Contest benefit the Valley Independent Newspaper in Education program.

*25 cent voting fee [illegible]

EASTGATE 19, MONESSEN, PA 15062
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:30AM-5:00PM

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RECRUITMENT
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

LEGALS
DAILY: NOON, 2 Weekdays Prior To Publication
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

MERCHANDISE
4 LINES • 4 DAYS
$14.30
PRE-PAY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

GARAGE SALES
5 LINES • 3 DAYS
$18.65
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

SERVICE DIRECTORY
3 LINES • 30 DAYS
$59.77
PRE-PAY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

AUTOMOTIVE
4 LINES • 26 DAYS
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PRE-PAY PRIVATE PARTY ONLY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

RUN UNTIL IT SELLS!
4 LINES
PRIVATE PARTY MERCHANDISE ONLY. NO BUSINESSES, AUTOS, BOATS, RV'S, REAL ESTATE, MOBILE HOMES OR APARTMENTS.
ASKING PRICE OF ITEM IS REDUCED EVERY TWO WEEKS BY 5%
$19.45
PRE-PAY
DAILY: 1:30PM, Day Prior
MONDAY: 4:30PM, Friday
SUNDAY: 11AM, Wednesday

PRE-PAY WITH

GENERAL INFORMATION: The Tribune-Review Publishing Company reserves the right to edit or reject any advertising copy and determine the correct classification of any advertisement. MISPRINTS: Notice of error should be reported to the Classified Department immediately. The Tribune-Review Publishing Company will not be responsible for more than the cost of that part of an ad rendered valueless by the error. CONFIDENTIALITY: Confidential box numbers -- we do not disclose the name of any advertiser using our classified pages. Persons answering File Number ads who wish to protect their identity can do so as follows: Place your reply in an envelope addressed to the File Box at the Valley Independent Classified Department, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062. Include the file number and a list of firms or persons you DO NOT want your reply to reach. If the advertiser is anyone you've listed, we'll destroy your reply. NOTICE: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, familial status or handicap, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. The paper accepts only recruitment advertising meeting EOE standards. The newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising which is in violation of the law.

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ASTRO ❖ GRAPH

Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday **AQUARIUS** January 20 through February 18

THURSDAY, FEB. 14, 2008

Although you have to shoulder bigger responsibilities where your work or career is concerned in the year ahead, don't let it intimidate you. Keep in mind that the returns will be larger as well, and that is motivation enough.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- When tackling a project by yourself, check out all the costs involved before you get started. Not understanding what you are getting yourself into could end up being a more expensive proposition than hiring help.

PISCEAS (Feb. 20-March 20) -- Keep your tongue from lashing out in public if you and your mate are having a disagreement, no matter how angry you are. Instead of finding relief, you'll only create an ugly disturbance, making you look bad.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- Someone who can help you in very important ways will withdraw the offer if you act unsure about his or her abilities. Show faith and appreciation for this person's assistance.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- You have excellent taste and it shows in all that you do, but be careful that you don't allow extravagance to get the better of your budget, or you won't have the resources for something you truly need.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- Even if you are quite knowledgeable about matters concerning your own family, that doesn't mean you have the answers for someone else's, so hold your tongue. You may cause more trouble than they already have.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- Today is actually a pretty good day for you, but through your own negative thinking you are apt to create needless limitations. Strive to be expansive and optimistic about your outlook.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- Remember that giving is a two-way street and it is important that you are just as generous to your friends as they are to you. If you appear to be merely a grasping person, you won't have many pals left.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- It's not a smart move to request a business favor from someone you know purely on a social basis, because it might put the person in an awkward position and chill the relationship in the process.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- If you're looking for accolades and endorsements for clever ideas, you'll not get the same type of applause that you would for actually accomplishing something. Talking and doing are not one in the same.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- It's an excellent time to experiment with new methods concerning a situation where you're not getting the types of results you desire. Break away from your traditional ways and try something new.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- If you find that instead of drawing strength from establishing a union, there is one person who is a drag, weed him or her out before you throw out the entire idea. Do what's best for the greater good.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Think twice before making a promise to an old friend who you wouldn't want to disappoint. It will be bad if you forget something that causes you to cancel and leave him or her hanging.

1000/GENERAL

Real Estate Career Seminar Schedule
Coldwell Banker Tri County Realty
Rostraver Twp. and Washington
Join us for a free information seminar!
Call for reservations:
Rostraver 724-929-8866
Washington 724-222-4225
ALL SEMINARS BEGIN AT 10AM

Rostraver	Washington
February 16	February 14
March 6	March 8
April 12	April 10

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FLAG PERSON Wanted for job in Rostraver area. Call 412-751-4642 EOE.

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Mature persons needed for day & afternoon shifts. Serious inquiries only reply to Box 866 c/o The Valley Independent Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062 EOE

DOWN ROUTE DRIVER
Part-time position, approximately 25 hrs./week. Assist district managers with the delivery of newspapers to subscribers on routes that temporarily have no carrier. Must possess valid PA driver's license and reliable vehicle. Hourly rate plus mileage. Applications available at The Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062 or email your resume to lhutchison@tribweb.com

Service Directory

From Electricity to Grass mowing. We have the pros.

The Valley INDEPENDENT

Service Directory 30 days pre-paid $53.01

1000/GENERAL

LOOKING FOR Part-Time Work? Enjoy bringing a smile to an elderly face? Part-time Activities Assistant needed for personal care home in Large, PA. Experience not essential; high school diploma is. Please call Barb or Chris at 412-384-0300.

MAILROOM (NEWSPAPER COUNTER) THE VALLEY INDEPENDENT
JOB REQUIRES:
- Basic math skills
- Ability to complete light paperwork associated with the position
- Flexibility on days and hours of availability
- Valid Pa. Driver's License (preferred)
- Standing, bending/stooping and lifting medium weight
- No previous experience necessary

Starting Wage: $7.15 per hour
Hiring Immediately
Applications available at The Valley Independent Eastgate 19 Monessen, PA 15062

MANAGER
Needed for hair salon. Full-time. Send letter of interest and/or resume in confidence to Box 892, c/o Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062

MH/MR Support Staff
Laurel Highlands Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization that supports persons with MH/MR developmental disabilities, is currently seeking part-time and full-time support staff to work in our community homes in the West Newton, Turkeytown Rd., New Stanton, and Elizabeth areas. No experience is necessary. Paid training. Must be at least 18 years of age and have valid PA driver's license. Starting rate is $8.63/hour with benefits after 90 days, increase to $8.86/hr. after 6 months. EOE. Call ONLY Mon.-Fri., 9-3pm. 412-825-9141.

NEWSPAPER INSERTERS
- Saturday mornings only
- Shift starts at 12 midnight thru 4am
- $7.15 per hour + shift differential + quarterly bonus
- This job entails placing pre-made inserts packages into the paper
- Involves bending, stooping, lifting & standing for extended periods of time
- Pre-employment screening

Applications available at: The Valley Independent Eastgate 19 Monessen, PA 15062

NOTICE TO READERS:
While work-at-home and other informational advertising is often legitimate, we advise readers to fully investigate the background of any company before paying a fee. If an offer sounds "too good to be true", it probably is. Proceed with caution if you are asked to send money or in calling 900 numbers. All phone numbers prefixed by "900" are charged to the caller on a per minute or per call basis. The Valley Independent makes every effort to qualify these charges for the reader. Remember, if you have any doubts, investigate!

NURSES AIDE
Full-time, Midnight Shift In Monessen
Call 724-684-8170
WAITSTAFF- New Alpine Club, Monessen. Evening hours. Must be 18. Experience & references required. For interview call JoAnn at 724-684-8657

1010/ACCOUNTING/FINANCE

MEMBER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE
Position with local financial institution. Part-time. Experience preferred. Flexible hours. Reply to Box 856 c/o The Valley Independent Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062.

1015/AUTOMOTIVE

2 AUTO MECHANICS
Immediate Positions
Family Owned
GM Dealership
For 50 Years
- Competitive Wages
- Health Benefit Pkg.
- GM Experience Preferred but not Required
- Must Have Valid PA State Inspection & Emissions License

-- Please Call --
Chip Bogdewic for Confidential Interview
B.Bogdewic Chevrolet, Inc. Bentleyville, PA
724-239-2121

1025/DRIVERS

★ DRIVERS ★
Immediate Openings
Class A & B Drivers
Local and OTR
Competitive Wage & Benefit Package
Also Needed
CLASS C LABORERS
Call 1-800-537-3152

1040/MEDICAL

Highlands Hospital

Aerobics Instructor
Certified aerobics instructor. Will teach 4th through 12th grade students during school hours, hours and schedule will vary.

Assistant Director Rehab
Licensed PT to assist Director with coordination of rehab services, on-site fitness center, & provide PT services to both inpatients and outpatients.

Manager-Respiratory Therapy
Respiratory care practitioner with experience in clinical and administrative functions. Will manage cardio-pulmonary dept. and Sleep Lab.

Mental Health: RN-Social Worker
For inpatient care setting. Requires related experience or a sincere interest in developing clinical skills in behavioral health.

Nurse Practitioner
CRNP with mental health and/or research experience. Must be independent worker and detail oriented.

Physical Therapist
For hospital-based inpatient & outpatient svcs.

Respiratory Care Practitioner
Registered or certified respiratory care practitioner

RNs-ICU, ER, OR, Cardiac Rehab
Requires critical care training, related experience preferred.

Social Worker
Part-time. Medical/ Surgical Social Worker BSW or MSW

Full-time and part-time positions include full benefit package. Casual and "Weekender" positions also available. Free on-site parking. On-site fitness center! Easy location just off Rt. 119S between Greensburg & Uniontown. Send resume or call for application
Human Resources Dept
Highlands Hospital
401 E. Murphy Ave.
Connellsville, PA 15425
724-626-2314 E.O.E.

Director of Nutritional Services
Long Term Care Facility seeking full-time Registered Dietician to direct the Nutrition Services Department, conduct nutrition assessments, care plans, MDS & other related duties. Qualified individuals may fax or send resume to:
724-310-1195 (fax)
MON VALLEY CARE CENTER
200 Stoops Drive
Monongahela, PA 15063
E.O.E.

NURSES AIDE all shifts, experience preferred. For appt. Victoria's Personal Care Home 724-684-6783

TRI COUNTY HOME HEALTH CARE now accepting applications for CNA's & Home Health Aides & people with years of exp. Bentleyville area. Call between 9am-5pm 724-785-4374 or 1-800-690-1152

1050/SALES

OUTSIDE SALES REPS
Full or Part Time
Flexible Hours
Excellent Income Potential

We are looking for aggressive, results-oriented salespeople to join our team to market Home Delivery of
Tribune-Review Publishing Company
Crew leader, storefront and door-to-door positions are available
Please call 412-610-6378
9am-5:30pm Monday
8am-3pm Tues. & Wed
8am-12 Thursday
Closed Friday

BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT! CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

1050/SALES

SALES & SERVICE Associate position, full-time, for South Side insurance agency. Must have or be willing to obtain insurance licenses. Send resume to Box 894, c/o Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062

1110/BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

DONORA ROUTE COMING OPEN
No Collecting
S. Allen
Brokaw
S. Mellon
21 Papers
Call 724-684-2647

DRIVER WANTED
Rostraver Twp./ Smithton
- 102 Customers
- Mon.-Sat.
- 2 hrs. daily
- No Collections

Call 724-684-2648

MONESSEN ROUTE AVAILABLE
Coolidge Ave.
Mellon Ave.
No Collecting
Only 13 Papers
Call 724-684-2647

MYSTERY SHOPPERS earn up to $150 per day. Undercover shoppers needed to judge retail & dining establishments. Call 1-800-491-5378

ROUTES AVAILABLE
Tribune Review
✓ California
✓ Bentleyville
✓ Ellsworth Area
Call Jason at 724-272-4437 or Bill at 412-523-2306

1120/SITUATIONS

LPN to help elderly or disabled with bathing & shampooing or other necessitates. References. 724-929-3176

WILL BABYSIT in home. Call 724-483-4762.

2010/ESTATE NOTICES

Keenan, Elizabeth I.
EXECUTOR NOTICE

Letters Testamentary on the estate of ELIZABETH I. KEENAN, Court Term No. 63-08-00044, late of Monongahela, Washington County, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned by the Register of Wills of Washington County, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims against the same to present them to the undersigned, duly authenticated for settlement.

JAMES W. HAINES, JR.
ATTORNEY AT LAW
1202 WEST MAIN ST
MONONGAHELA, PA 15063

James Dean Keenan,
Co-Executor
710 Marne Avenue
Monongahela, PA 15063

Jane Mancha,
Co-Executor
9653 Wintersel Circle
Plymouth, Mi 48170
1/30,2/6,13

Mudron, Elma L.
ESTATE NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that in the estate of ELMA L. MUDRON also known as ELMA MUDRON, deceased, late of City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, the Register of Wills has granted letters testamentary to the executrix named below. All persons having claims or demands against said estate are requested to present the same to the executrix or the attorney named below and all persons indebted to the decedent are requested to make payment without delay to the executrix named below.

Jacqueline Dabill
Executrix
1224 Rostraver Street
Monessen, PA 15062

Mark E. Ramsier,
Esquire
Attorney at Law
823 Broad Avenue
Belle Vernon, PA 15012
2/13,20,27

EVERYTHING YOU WANT AND NEED
AUTOMOTIVE
REAL ESTATE
HELP WANTED
CLASSIFIEDS WORK!
TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

2010/ESTATE NOTICES

Williams, Rufus
ESTATE NOTICE

Letters of administration on the estate of RUFUS WILLIAMS, a/k/a RUFUS WILLIAMS, JR. late of Donora Borough, Washington County, deceased, having been granted by the Register of Wills of Washington County, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims against the same to present them without delay to

Thomas B. Kostolansky,
Administrator
617 McKean Avenue
Donora, PA 15033
1/30,2/6,13

2020/BID NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

The California Area School District will receive sealed bids for Industrial Arts, Music, Interscholastic Athletics, Physical Education, Science, First Aid Equipment and Supplies until 2:00 p.m., February 29, 2008.

Specifications may be obtained at the Business Office located at Phillisburg School, 750 Orchard St., California, PA 15419 - Phone: 724-938-2530.

Bids will be opened publicly at 2:05 p.m., February 28, 2008, in the Business Office at the above address.

The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids. EOE.

Mary Bastin,
Board Secretary
2/1,6,13

NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given that the Authority of the Borough of Charleroi will receive sealed bids at the Authority Office, 3 McKean Avenue, Charleroi, PA 15022 on Tuesday, February 26, 2008 at 10:00 A.M. prevailing time, for the construction of a winch system for the sludge dumpster at the Authority's Sewage Treatment Plant under the following Contract:

CONTRACT NO. 36-S
STP Sludge Dumpster Winch System

Plans and specifications are on file at the Office of the Authority, 3 McKean Avenue, Charleroi, PA 15022 and at the office of Chester Engineers, Airside Business Park, 260 Airside Drive, Moon Township, PA 15108. Bids may not qualify any of the specifications. Immediately after the closing time for receipt of bids, all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Authority office, 3 McKean Avenue, Charleroi, PA 15022.

Copies of the plans and specifications for this Contract may be purchased for fifty dollars ($50) per set, nonrefundable, from Chester Engineers.

A certified check payable to the Authority of the Borough of Charleroi or a bid bond on the bid form executed by the Bidder and a surety company approved by the Owner, in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the bid, shall be submitted with each bid to guarantee the Bidder's entrance into a contract if given the award. No bid bond shall be waived or returned because the Bidder has failed to or cannot comply with any requirements as set forth in the plans, specifications, or any applicable statutes of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, or any applicable municipal ordinances. No bid may be withdrawn for sixty (60) calendar days after the scheduled closing time for receipt of bids.

Work under the Contract is subject to the requirements of the "Pennsylvania Prevailing Wage Act" (1961 August 15, PL 987, P.S. 165) and subsequent amendments.

All Contractors submitting bids may be required to submit a listing of past experience of similar work verifying qualifications for this type of project.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities in the bidding.

Authority of the Borough of Charleroi
Thomas D. Santoro,
Secretary
Edward J. Golanka,
General Manager
2/13

LOOKING FOR A NEW RIDE? FIND IT HERE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

2020/BID NOTICES

NOTICE

The Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Consortium will accept electronically-sealed online bids for Audio Visual/Data Processing and Custodial/General supplies on behalf of its following members: Belle Vernon Area, Burrell, Derry Area, Franklin Regional, Greater Latrobe, Greensburg Salem, Hempfield Area, Jeannette City, Kiski Area, Ligonier Valley, Monessen City, Mount Pleasant Area, New Kensington-Arnold, Penn-Trafford, Southmoreland and Yough school districts, Eastern Westmoreland and Northern Westmoreland career and technology centers, and Westmoreland Intermediate Unit.

The bid process will be conducted exclusively online utilizing a secure Internet site through eSchoolMall.com (http://www.eschoolmall.com). Specifications and information on bid forms may be obtained online at eSchoolMall.com. Additional information is available by calling eSchoolMall.com at 1-877-969-7246 or WIU at 724-836-2460 x2336. Electronic bids will be accepted until 3:00 p.m., EST Wednesday, March 5, 2008. Bids will be opened electronically at 8:30 a.m., EST, Thursday, March 6, 2008 and will then be available to the public. Bids will be reviewed for award recommendations at a public meeting of the Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Consortium to be held Thursday, March 27, 2008, at 8:37 a.m. EST in the Board Room at the Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Administration Building, 102 Equity Drive, Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

Gregg Kretchum
Joint Purchasing Coordinator
Westmoreland Intermediate Unit
2/7,13,19

2030/MEETING NOTICES

NOTICE

Municipal Authority of the Borough of Smithton will hold their Regular Monthly Meeting on February 20, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building.
2/13

NOTICE

Public notice is hereby given, pursuant to Act No. 175 of 1974, that the Westmoreland County Housing Authority Board of Commissioners will hold a regular public meeting for the purpose of conducting general business on Tuesday, February 19th, 2008, 5:30 P.M. with a 5:00 P.M. executive work session at the Main Office of the Authority, 154 South Greengate Road, Greensburg, PA.

Michael L. Washowich
Executive Director
2/13

PUBLIC HEARING
BOROUGH OF DONORA
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Borough of Donora Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 20, 2008 at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Donora Municipal Complex to hear a request for a variance by the owner of 430 Murray Avenue, who wishes to enclose the front porch of the structure, which is located in an R2 two family residence district, which is less than the required front yard depth.

Edward Brletich,
Code Enforcement Officer
2/13

PUBLIC HEARING
BOROUGH OF DONORA
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Borough of Donora Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 20, 2008 at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Donora Municipal Complex to hear a request for a variance by the owner of 23 McKean Avenue, who wishes to operate a machine shop and fabricating shop which is located in R1C one family residence district.

Edward Brletich,
Code Enforcement Officer
2/13

LOOKING FOR A NEW PAD? FIND IT HERE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

2040/CIVIL NOTICES

NOTICE

IN RE: ADOPTION OF VICTORIA DEMARCO

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF FAYETTE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION NO. 810 OF 2007

NOTICE

TO: Jennifer Muirhead

A petition has been filed asking the Court to put an end to all rights you have to your child, Victoria Demarco. The Court has set a hearing to consider ending your rights to your child. That hearing will be held in Courtroom No. 3 of the Fayette County Courthouse, Uniontown, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, on March 18, 2008, at 1:30 p.m. You are warned that even if you fail to appear at the scheduled hearing, the hearing will go on without you and your rights to your child may be ended by the court without your being there.

YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO BE REPRESENTED AT THE HEARING BY A LAWYER. YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS PAPER TO YOUR LAWYER AT ONCE. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A LAWYER OR CANNOT AFFORD ONE, GO TO OR TELEPHONE THE OFFICE SET FORTH BELOW TO FIND OUT WHERE YOU CAN GET LEGAL HELP. THIS OFFICE CAN PROVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION ABOUT HIRING A LAWYER.

IF YOU CANNOT AFFORD TO HIRE A LAWYER, THIS OFFICE MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE YOU WITH INFORMATION ABOUT AGENCIES THAT MAY OFFER LEGAL SERVICES TO ELIGIBLE PERSONS AT A REDUCED FEE OR NO FEE.

PENNSYLVANIA BAR ASSOCIATION
100 SOUTH STREET
PO BOX 186
HARRISBURG, PA 17108
(800) 932-0311
2/13

4000/ADOPTION

ADOPT
Abundance of LOVE, secure future, musical family wishing to adopt your precious baby. Legal/Confidential. Expenses Paid.
Call Dale Eileen at 1-888-822-0146

4070/LOST & FOUND

FIND SOMETHING? LOSE SOMETHING? Place your lost & found ad FREE. Runs 4 days at no charge. Call 724-684-5200.

4100/PERSONALS

$195 DIVORCE COMPLETE
No-Fault Uncontested
Reisman & Davis, Pgh
-No Court Appearance or Travel To Office
-Free Information
1-800-486-4070 24Hrs

ALONE & PREGNANT?
A Confidential Caring Friend
Free Pregnancy Test
LIFELINE OF S.W. PA
Call Hotline 24 Hrs.
724-489-8020

4130/EVENT TICKETS

50TH ANNIVERSARY DANCE 2 tickets, Stockdale Fire Hall Feb. 16, $15 each. 724-483-2889

5000/APPAREL & JEWELRY

HARLEY DAVIDSON leather & wool jacket XL, excellent condition, $130.00 724-872-0151

5010/APPLIANCES

WASHER $125. & electric dryer, $75. Both work. Good condition. 724-562-9364.

5020/ARTICLES

BEDSPREAD single, chenille, melon color, floral design, $30. 724-929-8574

ERECTOR SET 1960's No. 10 ½ Merry Go Round Parachute Jump amusement park $50. 724-929-8574

POWER CHAIR- large, Quantum 600 with extras. $950. Call 724-483-3156

ROCKING CHAIR wooden & cloth doll, small $10.00. 724-929-8574

LOOKING FOR LOVE? CHECK OUT MEETING PLACE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

REAL ESTATE

3060/FOR SALE/WASH.

CALL FOR DETAILS
MONONGAHELA 3 bedroom brick ranch within walking distance to Y. Great floor plan. Call for details. Reduced to $129,921.
MONONGAHELA 3 bedroom quality built home in great location. Call today for details and make your appointment. Asking $169,900.
MONONGAHELA 3 bedroom Cape Cod. Freshly painted. Newer carpet, furnace, windows. Nice large lot. $89,921.

Century 21
FRONTIER REALTY
724-348-7470

CALL FOR DETAILS
3 BEDROOM vinyl split entry on cul-de-sac street in nice neighborhood. Updates to kitchen, bath + new carpet and paint. Finished lower level with gas fireplace. Just listed. Call today-tomorrow could be too late! $136,900.

Century 21
FRONTIER REALTY
724-929-2180

STOREROOM on 1st Floor
Includes 2 apts. upstairs with separate utilities. LOCATED McKean Ave., Charleroi. $19,500.
724-366-4946 or 724-438-4461

3065/FOR SALE/WMLD.

MONESSEN- 4 room & bath, yard, garage. $6,000. Please call 724-684-8198.

BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT! CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

5020/ARTICLES

TYPEWRITER manual, good condition. $70.00. Call 724-483-8360.

5035/BABY ITEMS

PACK & PLAY with changing table & bassinet. Excellent cond. $50. 724-326-1177.
PLAY PEN: small. Excellent condition. $15. 724-626-1177.

5080/EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

AB CHAIR brand new, was $125, sell for $75.00. Call 724-929-3176.
EXERCISE BIKE $10.00. Call 724-929-8574.

5130/FURNITURE

FRENCH Provincial bedroom 4 pcs. with box springs, complete. $175. 724-317-9172.

4100/PERSONALS

3065/FOR SALE/WMLD.

ROSTRAVER-foreclosed property. 15 yr. old 3 bed. ranch w/garage. $145,000 value, needs some attention. Buy for $119,900. Get $10,000 rebate at closing. Net cost $109,900. Call 1-508-947-6932.

3066/FOR SALE/OTHER

CALL FOR DETAILS
MONONGAHELA. What a "whopperfunity!" Business, building, equipment & liquor license. Call for more details.
CHARLEROI. Look 'N Love this 4 bedroom home with new windows, flooring, kitchen. Master has walk-in closet, many special touches. $76,000.
BELLE VERNON 4 acres on a prime location on Rt. 51. Sewage tap included. Call for more details. $114,900.

Century 21
FRONTIER REALTY
724-483-3004

LYNNWOOD
2 story. 3 or 4 bedroom on a corner lot. 2 car garage, rear deck. $127,900.
NORTH CHARLEROI
5 bedroom brick home with 1st floor master suite. Many updates. $79,900.

NORTHWOOD REALTY SERVICES
201 ASSOCIATES
724-929-1370

3080/MOBILE HOME/SPACES

ROSTRAVER TWP. 3 bedroom 14x72, excellent condition. $16,500. Financing available. Call 412-384-7388.

LOOKING FOR A NEW PAD? FIND IT HERE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

5180/MUSICAL

KIMBALL piano like new. $2,400 when purchased, sell $900/best offer. 724-317-9172.

5195/SPORTING GOODS

GOLF CLUBS Power Built new, never used w/bag. $200. 724-483-6724 412-551-4848.

5220/WANTED TO BUY

$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$$
$CASH FOR$
Broken or Unwanted Gold or Platinum
Chains, Bracelets, Rings, Etc.
Gold & Silver Coins
Diamonds & Estate Jewelry
Highest Prices Paid
THE JEWELTIQUE
724-225-1455

IF WE DON'T HAVE IT, YOU DON'T NEED IT. CLASSIFIEDS

4100/PERSONALS

3555/APTS-RENT/WASHINGTON

CHARLEROI
1 bedroom apt. Convenient downtown location. Secure bldg. Equipped kitchen, dishwasher, a/c, w/w carpet, laundry facility, community room, on-site parking. Applicants must be 62 yrs. or older & meet income guidelines. Call 724-438-3089.

CHARLEROI 1 bedroom furnished, some utilities inc. $280/mo. plus security. No pets. Call 724-483-2870.

CHARLEROI
1 & 2 bedroom apts. for rent w/intercom, wall to wall carpet, washer/dryer. $325-$400. Security deposit. No pets.
724-292-1189
724-396-1140

CHARLEROI 1 bedroom, cute, newly remodeled, all utilities incl. except electric. $450. Call 724-554-8282.

FALLOWFIELD TWP. nice 1 bedroom apt. Water, sewage & garbage incl. $300. Call 724-929-4936.

MONONGAHELA 1st floor apt., 3 bedrooms, laundry hookups, yard & garage. $495+ utilities. 724-258-6481.

MONONGAHELA- 1 bedroom furnished apt., 1st floor, accessible. $250 + utilities. Call weekdays 9am-5pm 724-258-6727.

3561/APT-RENT/OTHER

MONONGAHELA
Modern 1 bedroom apartment. Air conditioning, refrigerator, stove, elevator, intercom, laundry, storage, security. Starting at $350 + electric. Call 412-257-0902.

3605/HSE-RENT/FAYETTE

WASHINGTON TWP.- rent/rent to own. 3 bedroom, newly remodeled ranch house. Fenced in yard. $775+ utilities. 724-263-0965.

5220/WANTED TO BUY

$ $ $ $
Collector
BUYING GOLD & SILVER COINS, JEWELRY & DENTAL GOLD, PLATINUM & LIONEL TRAINS
Highest Prices Paid
-- WILL TRAVEL --
724-258-4189
$ $ $ $

BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT! CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

5310/GARAGE/YARD SALES

3605/HSE-RENT/FAYETTE

N. BELLE VERNON- 2 bedroom, newly remodeled, living room, family room, kitchen, bath, c/a, laundry facility. $600+ utilities. No pets. 724-929-8733.

3620/HSE-RENT/WASHINGTON

CHARLEROI 2 bedroom, Shady Ave. Newly renovated, new carpet. $485+ utilities & security. No pets. Previous landlord reference req. Avail. before March 1st. Call 724-938-7165.

HOUSING
The Washington County Housing Authority is accepting applications for affordable housing in all locations. Applicants may choose to pay an income based rent (30% of family income) or a flat amount which will remain the same regardless of income. Flat rents are a result of a change in regulations for public housing only and are designed to help working families stay in affordable housing. Applicants are screened for criminal behavior and ability to uphold a lease. Applications are available at our public housing sites in Washington, Canonsburg, California, Monongahela, Donora, Fredericktown, Bentleyville and North Charleroi for both elderly and family households. Please call 724-228-6060 for information or locations and times, or obtain an application from the internet at http://housing-authority.co.washington.pa.us. EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY. Hearing impaired call TDD 724-228-6083.

NORTH CHARLEROI rent-to-own beautiful 5 bedroom home. Call 724-678-0979.

5220/WANTED TO BUY

$ CASH PAID FOR $ Ham radio equipment, receivers, any condition. 724-326-4930.

A Cut Above the Rest Buying
STANDING TIMBER & LOGS
Free est. Highly recommended w/references in your area. 1 acre min. Call JE Logging 724-455-5723 or 724-322-0302.

5570/DOGS - MIXED

FREE to good home female German Sheppard mix, 6 mos., spayed. 724-684-9516.

5600/LOST & FOUND

LOST female Chow cream colored, pink collar, answers to Sabrina, Virgin Run Rd., Vanderbilt. 724-398-3038.

4100/PERSONALS

3620/HSE-RENT/WASHINGTON

MONONGAHELA- 2 bedroom, central air, 2 car garage. $550+ utilities & security deposit. Call 724-258-5813.

NEW EAGLE- 4 room house plus utility room. Beautifully redone. $600+ utilities & security. 724-258-6747.

3625/HSE-RENT/WMLD.

ROSTRAVER 3 bedroom, full house air, large porch. $675 plus electric & garbage. Call 724-562-9364.

3636/GARAGE/STORAGE

MONESSEN
1 Car Garage for Rent
$75 Month
Lease Required
Call 724-333-6042

3700/COMMERCIAL RE

BELLE VERNON area 4 unit apt. bldg., all separate utilities with all 4 units rented. Serious inquiries only 724-929-8253.

MODERN OFFICE OR RETAIL SPACE
BELLE VERNON
719 Broad Ave., air conditioning, 1,500 sq. ft., off street parking.
MONONGAHELA
215 Chess St. 2,000 sq. ft. Call 412-257-0902.

Service Directory

Has the pros.
The Valley Independent
Service Directory 30 days pre-paid $53.01

6030/TRUCKS

2004 S10 Crew Cab-41K miles, tan, show room condition, garage kept. Nego. 724-483-7105.

6050/PARTS & ACCESSORIES

USED AUTO PARTS
At Affordable Prices
C&M AUTO RECYCLING
MONONGAHELA
724-258-3553

6080/AUTOS FOR SALE

2002 CHRYSLER Sebring, loaded, sunroof, V6 fuel injected, low miles. $5,700. 724-823-0000.

LOOKING FOR LOVE? CHECK OUT MEETING PLACE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

4100/PERSONALS

6080/AUTOS FOR SALE

GERRY RAYMOND AUTOMOTIVE
2002 JEEP Wrangler #8300A, 4x4, soft top. Now $13,995.
2004 CHEVY Colorado #8299A, auto, a/c, 4x4. Now $16,995.
2002 GMC Envoy, #7591A, 4x4. Now $11,995.
2007 DODGE Calibur R/T #P748, AWD, auto, a/c. Now $16,995.
2005 DODGE Durango, #7430A, 4x4. Now $16,995.
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